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ARAB TIMES

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Relations with Iran will be better, hopes Sheikh Sabah

Kuwait will soon send diplomats to Tehran

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed has said that Kuwait will soon send two diplomats to Tehran to work at the Kuwaiti embassy there.

Addressing the newly-elected board members of the Kuwait Journalists Association (KJA) Sheikh Sabah also said that the two diplomats have already been chosen and they will leave for Tehran as soon as the current war of the cities stops.

demand that Iran should stop meddling in the domestic affairs of GCC countries and pledge not to take hostile actions against them, he added.

"If such conditions are met then everyone will be able to resolve problems through diplomatic channels," Sheikh Sabah said.

Confirmed

Asserting that Kuwait is not in a state of war with Iran, the top Kuwaiti official expressed hopes that the two neighbouring Muslim states would have strong relations in future.

Sheikh Sabah confirmed that UAE President Sheikh Zayed, is trying to improve ties between Iran and the GCC. Sheikh Zayed, whose country has good relations with Iran, is acting on behalf of the GCC.

Sheikh Sabah said a forthcoming meeting in Kuwait of the



Sheikh Sabah

the top Kuwaiti diplomat also tackled the situation in Afghanistan, and expressed hopes that Soviet troops would pull out from Afghanistan as soon as possible, so that Kabul can regain its seat in the OIC.

He expressed hopes that the visit of Jordanian monarch King Hussein to Islamabad and talks with top officials there would contribute to an early settlement of the Afghan issue.

Tribute

Turning to home affairs, Sheikh Sabah said that the Almighty has blessed and shielded Kuwait against evils "due to the cohesion of its people and their generous contributions to their needy Muslim brethren throughout the world."

He noted that Kuwaitis have built schools, hospitals and mosques, besides offering relief to needy Muslim countries.

Sheikh Sabah called on the new KJA board members to nurture the local press through professional controls "so as to deprive those who seek to harm Kuwait and tamper with its security and stability."

The acting Premier paid tribute to the local press and Kuwaiti journalists and urged them to be "the nation's vigilant eye."

Sheikh Sabah disclosed that the government recently formed a committee assigned to draw plans for administrative reforms in all state ministries and institutions.

He stressed that administrative reform is not easy, but the concerned parties have to come up with proposals to improve performance in the government sector.

He also said the government has appointed a new under-secretary to supervise the administrative reform.



A tugboat sprays the smouldering gas carrier Havglimt after Iranian gunboats mounted a fierce double attack on the vessel. (Reuters wirephoto)

46 deaths in Kharg attack confirmed

Iranian raid sets two tankers ablaze

MANAMA, March 22, (Agencies): Iranian gunboats and a helicopter alternated in a fierce dawn attack today on a Norwegian-operated tanker laden with Saudi Arabian ammonia, killing two seamen and injuring nine others.

Meanwhile, Norwegian shipping sources in Oslo said today that 46 seamen, including a Swede and a Briton, died in Iraqi jet attacks on two Iranian tankers berthed at Kharg Island in the Gulf.

Stavros G. L. while salvage tugboats and the remaining crew battled the blaze.

The Jack Williams was overheard explaining to helicopter-borne reporters that it was in the vicinity of the stricken tanker when the attack took place "by unknown patrol craft" and that, responding to an SOS, it "rendered assistance."

Assistance

Under the Pentagon-decreed rules of engagement for US Navy warships in the Gulf, only humanitarian assistance can be extended to trouble-ridden commercial vessels that do not fly the US flag.

Likewise, the British destroyer HMS Exeter sent off a Lynx helicopter with a gas-masked medical team to help the crew of the 38,534-ton Norwegian-operated Havglimt, which flies the Singapore flag. Most of the injuries were due to inhalation of ammonia vapours, maritime salvage sources reported.

The attacks were the seventh and eighth by Iran on neutral shipping since Friday.

The Havglimt, carrying ammonia and operated by the Oslo-based Havor Co., was hit at dawn about 12 miles (19 kms) northwest of Dubai.

According to reports reaching Dubai from the salvage tugboats that rushed to the help of the Havglimt, two gunboats first attacked the tanker with machine guns and rocket propelled grenades from all sides. Forty minutes later, one gunboat fired again while a helicopter was rocketing the vessel.

Dubai port authority officers identified the dead crewmen only as Singapore nationals, adding

that the ship's Norwegian captain was among the wounded.

Fires and leaks aboard the Havglimt and Stavros G.L. were brought under control by salvage teams late this afternoon.

The executives said the Iranians concentrated on the crew quarters apparently aiming to inflict heavy human casualties in retaliation for the Iraqi raid on Saturday on two Iranian tankers at Iraq's Kharg Island oil terminal.

The "tanker war" escalated as Iran and Iraq continued missile duels and air raids on each other's major cities.

Iraq today fired a long-range missile into Tehran and mounted air raids on seven other cities, the official Iraqi News Agency reported. The missile was the 106th aimed at the Iranian capital since Feb 29 in a deadly "war of cities." Iran during the same period fired about 65 missiles at Baghdad.

Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency reported Iraq's missile today struck a residential area of Tehran. There was no word on casualties.

Tanker captain's brush with death

DUBAI, March 22, (Reuters): Norwegian captain Kvan Egil missed death by inches today when shrapnel sliced into his legs and hip as he guided his tanker through the Gulf night.

On his first trip through the waterway in "four or five years," an Iranian frigate blasted the 38,534-tonne liquid gas carrier Havglimt with gunfire and at least 40 rockets just before dawn.

"In a way, sure I am lucky," Egil said as he contemplated strapped-up legs and a blood-stained hand.

Two others on his ship were not so lucky — a Singaporean cook and another seaman were killed by the bullets and rockets which raked the bridge and crew quarters.

Baby born with bullet wound

ISLAMABAD, March 22, (Kuna): A pregnant woman gave birth to a child shortly after a pistol shot pierced her belly. It was reported here today.

Zohra Bibi, a young village woman from Talagang, 35 miles northwest of Islamabad, was rushed to a hospital in Rawalpindi yesterday after her husband accidentally shot her with a pistol.

In the hospital she gave birth to a son, whose chest was found to have also been pierced by the pistol bullet, according to an identical story published in two newspapers of Rawalpindi.

The bullet was taken out from her body and both the mother and the new-born child are improving.

It is stated that the husband was trying his newly bought pistol when Zohra suddenly came in the way and was hit.

Sikh rebels fire rockets

AMRITSAR, March 22, (Reuters): Sikh militants used rockets successfully for the first time last night in an attack on a paramilitary post in Punjab state, police said.

About 50 paramilitary police were camped in the grounds of a temple at Phagwara, when a rocket blew a hole in the outer wall.

The extremists fired two rockets at the temple about 100km (60 miles) from the Sikh holy city Amritsar. Only one exploded and nobody was injured.

OIC pledges support to Palestinian uprising

AMMAN, March 22, (Reuters): Islamic nations pledged support today for the Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied lands and for the PLO.

Organisation of Islamic Conference members promised "to provide material, political and moral support to their brothers in the occupied Palestinian territories and to the PLO ... to enable them ... to pursue their glorious uprising."

A statement by the 46-member OIC said the 14 weeks of protests, in which at least 102 Palestinians and one Israeli have been killed, have "unmasked Israel's real face which it hid behind false pretences of democracy."

Ensure

The pan-Islamic group, on the second day of its conference of foreign ministers in Amman, condemned "the campaign of repression, intimidation and murder launched by the Israeli forces against our Palestinian brothers."

The OIC called for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli

conflict that would ensure self-determination and rights of return for the Palestinian people. It urged international action to "put an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine and ensure the liberation of Al Quds (Jerusalem) and the blessed mosque of Al Aqsa."

An arson attack on Al Aqsa, Islam's third holiest shrine, was a major factor which prompted the OIC's creation in 1969.

Jordan's King Hussein, in his opening address to the conference, urged it to support the Palestinian uprising and to seek peaceful solutions to conflicts in the Gulf and Afghanistan.

Conflict

The King began a three-day official visit to Pakistan today, during which he was expected to discuss Afghanistan issue with President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

Foreign Minister Tahir Al Masri told a news conference a promised Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan had become a "hot issue" at the OIC conference.

He said Jordan wanted to speed up progress at peace talks in Geneva between Pakistan and the pro-Soviet Kabul government, but had no specific formula to solve disputes over formation of an interim government and Soviet supplies to Kabul.

"We are just trying to get all the parties to the conflict to solve the problem," he said.

Masri said yesterday the OIC did not plan to admit as a full member an Afghan guerrilla alliance demanding OIC recognition of an interim government it has appointed.

He said neither the Afghan guerrillas nor the Moro National Liberation Front, a Muslim group fighting for autonomy in the southern Philippines, qualified for OIC membership because they were not states.

Kuwait's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Oasimi hailed the Palestinian uprising, saying that it has brought new life to the Islamic world.

Oasimi made the remarks during his speech at the OIC meeting.

Afghan pullout Moscow wants a peace accord

WASHINGTON, March 22, (Agencies): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said today Moscow preferred to see a signed peace accord in Geneva before withdrawing its military forces from Afghanistan.

Speaking with reporters as he began a second day of pre-summit talks with Secretary of State George Shultz, Shevardnadze seemed to undercut a recent statement by a Soviet official that Moscow would withdraw its 115,000 troops even if UN-brokered negotiations collapsed.

"It is better to have the document signed in Geneva," Shevardnadze said as he posed for photographers with Shultz at the State Department. "This is the better possibility."

Asked about Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfilov's comments last week that troops would be withdrawn with or without an accord, Shevardnadze said: "I don't see when he said that ... we'll see."

Shevardnadze declined comment on Washington's headline position against continued Soviet aid to the Kabul regime and hedged on whether this issue — a major obstacle to an Afghan peace agreement — could be resolved this week.

Summit

The Shultz-Shevardnadze talks, which began yesterday and are set to end tomorrow, are the second in a series of monthly planning sessions to pave the way for a fourth summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Shevardnadze is due to meet Reagan and have lunch at the White House tomorrow.

As a symbol of improved US-Soviet relations, Shultz was scheduled to inaugurate a nuclear risk reduction centre, a communication link that grew out of previous Shultz-Shevardnadze talks and was formalised in an agreement signed last September.

Peres raises possibility of Gaza self-rule

Shamir remains adamant

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, March 22, (AP): Israeli troops shot and killed a Palestinian man in the occupied West Bank during a night-time clash with protesters hurling rocks, metal bars and bottles, an Army spokeswoman said today.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, returning from talks in Washington, said peace negotiations could be set back if Israeli objections to an international conference and the exchange of land for peace were not taken into consideration.

Harmed

US leaders "could not ignore the genuine and serious disagreements we raised about the proposals presented to us," Shamir said at an airport press conference.

"These reservations, in our opinion, will not bring peace

closer and the peace may even be harmed if they are not taken into consideration," Shamir said.

Touring the occupied Gaza Strip, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres raised the possibility of reaching an agreement with Jordan to give self-rule to the 650,000 Palestinians in Gaza before implementing such autonomy in the West Bank.

"It would be a scandal and a mistake to just get up and leave Gaza," Peres said. "But if we could reach an arrangement of autonomy ... with Jordan which would enable us to live in terms of security with Gaza, I'm for that."

Earlier today, an Army spokeswoman said a Palestinian man's body was found this morning after a night clash in Tubas, an Arab village 50 miles (80 kilometres) north of Jerusalem.

The Palestine Press Service identified the man as 26-year-old

Hikmet Drameh. The agency said troops shot and wounded two more protesters, one of them seriously, but the Army denied the report.

The spokeswoman said the clash erupted when hundreds of Palestinians attacked an Army patrol with rocks, metal bars and bottles. "The soldiers shot to extricate themselves from a life-threatening situation," she said.

Crushed

In the occupied Gaza Strip, the body of another Palestinian was found in an orchard in the village of Beit Hanoun, Israel Radio said. The man's skull was crushed, the radio said.

A military spokesman denied Army involvement in the death and said no troops had been in Beit Hanoun yesterday. But a resident of the village said the

(Continued on Page 2)

PLO will keep UN office open

Kaddoumi criticises US peace moves

AMMAN, March 22, (Reuters): The PLO today contrasted American closure plans for its UN office with US Middle East peace moves and said Washington's envoy could "go to hell" with his proposals.

Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO political department, told reporters his organisation believed Arab states would not accept Middle East peace proposals by US Secretary of State George Shultz.

"Sometimes some Arab countries, especially moderate leaders of the Arab world, hesitate to give a harsh answer to the American plans. On the contrary, revolutionary organisations like the PLO give it bluntly, 'let Shultz go to hell,'" Kaddoumi said.

The PLO "foreign minister" asked how the organisation could trust the US, given its plans to shut the PLO mission at the United Nations in New York.

"They are closing our office and they are pretending they are coming and are seeking peace. They are big liars...How can we

US files suit

NEW YORK, March 22, (Reuters): The US Justice Department today filed suit in New York Federal Court to shut the PLO's permanent observer mission to the United Nations.

trust the American administration when they have not committed themselves to their international obligations?" he asked.

Kaddoumi said the PLO would keep open its office "until the American police come and seal it off."

"Then we will go to the UN and live there, but this will remain a continuous headache to the US administration."

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آج کے اردو صفحات
ایران کے لئے کوئی سفارت
کاروں کی تاحریکی
شاہ حسین مسلمان افغانستان پر
بات چیت کیلئے پاکستان بھیجے گئے
سکھ احتجاجیوں کا راکٹوں سے حملہ
یوم پاکستان پر حضور ضیاء اور
وزیر اعظم بنو گرجو کے چٹاٹ
ادبیات ○ یوم ضیاء
یوم پاکستان پر خصوصی اشاعت

WEATHER	
TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate southeasterly wind, changing to fresh northwesterly wind.	
State of sea: moderate	
High water: 4:00 am, 3:00 pm	
Low water: 9:00 am, 10:00 pm	
Sunrise: 5:48 am	
Sunset: 6:01 pm	
Maximum temperature recorded:	
Kuwait: 25°C 77°F	
Amman: 22°C 72°F	
Falkland: 21°C 70°F	
Maximum temperature expected:	
Kuwait: 24°C 75°F	
Amman: 21°C 70°F	
Falkland: 23°C 73°F	
Minimum temperature recorded:	
Kuwait: 14°C 57°F	
Amman: 16°C 61°F	
Falkland: 17°C 63°F	
Maximum humidity recorded:	
Kuwait: 59 per cent	
Amman: 72 per cent	
Falkland: 74 per cent	
Minimum humidity expected:	
Kuwait: 69 per cent	
Amman: 82 per cent	
Falkland: 84 per cent	

INTERNATIONAL

Arabs negotiate revival of joint arms group

CAIRO, March 22, (Reuters): Four Arab countries are negotiating to revive a moribund Egypt-based arms group capable of supplying the whole Arab region, its Egyptian chairman said yesterday.

The Arab Organisation for Industrialisation (AOI), crippled as a joint body after Cairo's 1979 peace pact with Israel, has already signed \$50 million new business, mainly to supply Iraq with short-range rockets, Lieutenant-General Ibrahim Orabi told the Cairo Foreign Press Association.

"The organisation is capable of doing a lot not only for Egypt and the other partners but for all the Arab world," he said.

His remarks were the fullest official comments on the AOI since 11 Arab countries restored ties with Egypt over the last four months, reviving interest in the organisation as a vehicle for future Arab arms production.

Orabi said the original partners — Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the UAE — were negotiating terms for the three Gulf countries to resume their involvement.

"If we go wisely, I think we can reach a very good agreement," Orabi said.

The three Gulf partners pulled out in 1979, four years after the AOI was founded, in protest

against the peace treaty. Their capital was frozen.

In addition to assets in Egypt comprising nine factories which continued to make missiles, helicopters and other arms, AOI capital of \$662 million, including accumulated interest, remained in European banks, Orabi said.

The 57-year-old general, armed forces chief of staff when he took over as AOI chairman on retirement last October, acknowledged his appointment was made with Egypt's return to the Arab fold in view.

Important

Orabi said it was important not to rush revival of the AOI.

"I don't like to hurry reconciliation of relations on a sentimental basis," he said, without elaborating. "It is better to be a little bit slow rather than hurrying up and again coming to disputes or misunderstandings."

He said he aimed to streamline and update the management, marketing and structure of the AOI, whose current output was worth \$152 million.

Once a new structure was agreed, it was up to Arab countries to decide what they wanted of it.

"Let the Arabs agree about an aim and plans — what they need and who is going to produce what," he said. "If I have a definition about the needs, I can do a lot."



Test-tube baby pioneer Steptoe is dead

CANTERBURY, England, March 22, (Reuters): British test-tube baby pioneer Patrick Steptoe has died from cancer at the age of 74, his family announced today.

Stephoe delivered the world's first test-tube baby, Louise Brown, in July 1978.

He had been suffering from cancer for a number of years but carried on treating patients until almost the end.

His family said he died peacefully yesterday evening in the southern city of Canterbury, where he had lived since December.

Stephoe laid down the foundations for in vitro fertilisation, now known as the test-tube baby technique and used world-wide to treat a certain kind of infertility.

Pioneer

Fellow test-tube baby pioneer professor Robert Edwards said: "It is a very sad day for us. It is a very great loss...in the last three years he was working under considerable difficulties but carried on. He wished to do service to his patients for as long as possible."

After the birth of Louise Brown, Steptoe and Edwards helped hundreds of infertile couples have children at his Bourn Hall clinic near Cambridge.

They celebrated their 1,000th test-tube birth on December 26. Steptoe, who was made Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) this year, was due to have been presented with the honour by Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace this week.

Opposition and US reject proposal

Noriega offers to quit

PANAMA CITY, March 22, (Reuters): Beleaguered military ruler Manuel Antonio Noriega has offered to step down as head of the armed forces before general elections next year, but the olive branch was rejected by the opposition and the US government.

Acting President Manuel Solis Palma announced Noriega's offer in a televised address last night, saying it was conditional on the results of a national dialogue with all the country's political forces.

Noriega's move was rejected by the opposition and the US government, which want him to leave the country.

US State Department spokeswoman Anita Stockman said in Washington: "We believe the offer is little more than a ploy ...

and an effort on the part of Noriega to maintain direct or indirect control of the Panamanian defence forces."

Leaders of the National Civic Crusade, which organised a general strike yesterday that crippled the country's two major cities, said the offer did not change the situation and the strike would continue.

"Our position is the same it's always been. We are ready to talk but only at the moment that Noriega says he's leaving. The strike will go on," said Pierre Lehighnader, Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Another Crusade leader, Rafael Severino, said: "Solis Palma hasn't said anything. The strike continues."

The strike shut 90 per cent of the country's businesses and industry and demonstrated that

opposition to Noriega's rule has spread from the middle class to the workers once considered the backbone of support for the military-dominated government.

Noriega, 50, remained defiant after Solis Palma's speech.

"There is no reason to talk to the United States. I am talking with the Panamanians," he told reporters as he left the presidential palace last night. "Here we are winning the ultimate battle against colonialism."

"Before the people of the United States, I accuse the State Department of trying to create another Vietnam," Noriega said, directing his comments at American television cameras.

"You want to traumatise North American society and North American youth by sending them to fight in Central

America, spilling North American blood in Central America," he said.

Solis Palma said in his address: "Manuel Antonio Noriega...has put his post at my disposition, giving his word as a military officer and a gentleman to leave his post at an opportune time before the electoral process."

"But I make the use of this faculty (to accept the resignation) conditional on the results of a national dialogue with all the political forces of the country. If this does not happen, it is no," said Solis Palma, who was hand-picked for the presidency by Noriega.

Noriega's offer followed White House statements that Washington was no longer prepared to negotiate the general's voluntary departure from Panama.

American Democrats in UK vote in primary

LONDON, March 22, (UPI): The 120,000 Americans living in Britain were given the opportunity today to vote in person for the first time in a Democratic presidential primary. Only about 25 showed up.

"That's about twice the number we expected," said Charles Drobny, 45, an uncommitted delegate candidate from Israel.

Polling booths opened from 8:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. (GMT) at London's modern Queen Elizabeth II conference centre, across from historic Westminster Abbey and within view of the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben.

It was the fourth time the Democratic Party has held a primary election for Americans living outside the United States. But all previous ballots were conducted by mail, not in person.

The news media far outnumbered the voters. Camera crews from American and British networks pounced on each voter for interviews or to catch the American dropping a ballot into one of the two converted shoe boxes used as ballot boxes.

Majority

"We got out as much word (publicity for the vote) as we could," said Sally McNulty, chairman of Democratic Abroad UK. "We just had no idea what to expect" in terms of turnout.

Exit polling showed a majority of voters favouring Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis in the non-binding presidential preference race of the balloting.

One New Jersey resident wrote in the name of his favourite son, Sen. Bill Bradley of New Jersey. Another who described himself as "an old 60's person" wrote in the name of former California Gov. Jerry Brown.

Tara Thomas, 26, a Democratic Party activist from Amarillo, Texas, who works in a London record shop, was the first to vote. She picked Jesse Jackson because, she said, "he is liberal and not small-minded."

Jazz composer Evans, 75, dies

NEW YORK, March 22, (Reuters): Jazz arranger Gil Evans, who created classic records with Miles Davis in a career ranging from pre-war swing to the electric sounds of jazz fusion, has died at 75, his record company said yesterday.

A spokeswoman for Gramavision Records said Evans, who was also a pianist and a big band leader, died of peritonitis on Sunday in a resort in Mexico where he was on holiday with his sons.

In a career that spanned more than 50 years, Evans moved from arranging pre-war swing compositions for big band leader Claude Thornhill to leading his own big band featuring compositions by Jimi Hendrix and Sting and the latest in electronic equipment.

Sought out by many of jazz's best players, Evans was best known for a series of records he arranged in the late 1950s and early 1960s for Miles Davis, including "Miles Ahead," "Porgy and Bess" and "Sketches of Spain."

Still in print, the records have become classic expressions of the great trumpeter's work.

Evans was an original member of Davis' "Birth of the Cool" nine-member band which also featured Gerry Mulligan and John Lewis and ushered in the era of cool jazz in the 1950s.

Never a commercial success on his own, Evans in recent years led a big band of many top players who met last night at Manhattan's Sweet Basil Jazz club. The band made trips to Italy, Brazil and Japan.

"He was one jazz's most important and influential arrangers. He was a composer but his real contribution was as a recomposer," said jazz historian Dan Morgenstern.

Travis and McEntire win top vocal honours

BUENA PARK, California, March 22, (UPI): Randy Travis and Reba McEntire took top individual vocal honours and Hank Williams Jr. was named Entertainer of the Year as the Academy of Country Music handed out its 23rd annual "Hats" awards.

In a near repeat of last year's ceremonies, Travis won song of the year and single of the year honours for his ballad "Forever and Ever, Amen," before walking off with the top male vocalist title.

"Thank you again. I'm enjoying this tonight," the soft-spoken singer told the audience of 2,000 at Knott's Berry farm last night as he accepted his third award of the evening.

Newcomer

Travis, who along with Williams was nominated for six awards, fell short of his 1987 performance by failing to win album of the year. That honour went to Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt and Emmylou Harris for their joint effort, "Trio."

Williams beat out Travis, McEntire and Willie Nelson to be named Entertainer of the Year for the second year in a row. The other big winner of the evening was newcomer K.T. Oslin, who was honoured as top new female vocalist and captured video of the year for her hit, "80s Ladies."

Syria opens military college

DAMASCUS, March 22, (Reuters): Syria's first military college for women has been formally opened near Damascus by Defence Minister Major-General Mustafa Tlas, officials said today.

Single women aged from 18 to 24 with high school degrees will train at the college for two years to graduate as second lieutenants.



● A bear swirls eight hula hoops around its neck during a presentation of the new programme of the Soviet state circus in Moscow on Monday night. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tamils kill 13 in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, March 22, (Reuters): Suspected Tamil guerrillas killed 13 people, including six children, in raids on two villages in northern Sri Lanka today, military officials said.

They said the attackers raided the village of Maduwachikulam killing nine people, including six children. Another four people were slain nearby at Puddukulam.

The dead were members of the island's Sinhalese majority, the officials said.

"The killers came under cover

of darkness and spent about two hours in the villages," one official in Colombo said.

He said a villager had escaped and alerted police and the Army who rushed to the scene. No further details were immediately available.

Accused

The attacks were the first on civilians in the northern province this month. The military has accused the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam rebel group of massacring about 80 Sinhalese civilians in attacks on

villages in the eastern district of Trincomalee in the past three weeks.

Military officials in Trincomalee said last week that the Tigers, strongest of the Tamil groups fighting for a separate state, had started killing civilians to disrupt a refugee resettlement programme.

A decision to deploy Sri Lankan troops to protect Sinhalese villages in the East was taken during hurried talks last week in New Delhi between Sri Lankan and Indian officials after Tamil rebels stepped up attacks.

Moscow hints at tough line

MANILA, March 22, (AP): President Corazon Aquino ordered the regional military commands abolished today, saying she wants soldiers to battle communist rebels rather than be tied to desk jobs.

The President, in a speech marking the 91st anniversary of the 160,000-member armed forces, criticised the military's performance against the estimated 24,000 rebels.

She said the regional commands not only keep soldiers behind desks, but also delay the transmission of orders and supplies to field units.

Mrs Aquino ordered Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa to draft plans for the abolition of the nine remaining regional unified commands and "any unnecessary, intervening headquarters."

The regional commands were established in the late 1970s under deposed President Ferdinand Marcos. Last year, the military began consolidating the regional commands and reduced the number from 13 to nine.

Mrs Aquino said there was "no substitute for engaging an armed enemy in combat" and added, "I want the officers out in the field with their men, leading them into the fight on foot and less vulnerable to mines and ambushes."

New protests in Armenia

MOSCOW, March 22, (Reuters): New protests have erupted in Yerevan, capital of Soviet Armenia, breaking a moratorium on demonstrations for the return of a disputed region of neighbouring Azerbaijan.

A spokesman at the Armenian Press Agency Armenpress in Yerevan said crowds of people gathered yesterday and today to demand action over the Nagorno-Karabakh issue.

"I did not count them. But there were not many compared with last month's protests," he said.

Return

Hundreds of thousands of people protested in Yerevan in February, demanding the return of Nagorno-Karabakh which has been administered by Azerbaijan since 1923 despite its predominantly Armenian population.

Organisers suspended the protests until March 26 after Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev gave an assurance that the issue would be discussed at a special meeting on nationalities of the Communist Party's central committee.

No date for the meeting has been announced although it is expected to take place soon.

According to dissident sources, thousands of people took to the streets last night, in response to an article in the party newspaper Pravda indicating the Kremlin would not change the border.

Moscow dissidents quoted eyewitnesses as saying a crowd of 7,000 people massed after the end of the working day near the main press building in Yerevan to protest against the article.

Parut Khairikyan, a member of the Karabakh committee which organised the February demonstrations, told newsmen in Moscow that the meeting broke up peacefully at about 11:00 pm.

Pravda said any move to change the existing order would

have a negative effect on social and economic development. It also raised the spectre of ethnic chaos spreading across the Soviet Union.

"What if, the rest of the regions, at the expense of other peoples, similarly start satisfying their own interests? What will then become of the fraternal union of the peoples, the country's economy," Pravda inquired.

Khairikyan said the latest demonstrations were also against the withdrawal from circulation last week of editions of the evening newspaper Vecherny Yerevan.

The newspaper had apparently carried a report on a recent meeting of the local party committee in Nagorno-Karabakh, which voted for reunion with Armenia.

A local party official in Yerevan, contacted by telephone from Moscow, denied that full-scale demonstrations were taking place in the city.

Kaddoumi criticises US peace moves

(Continued from Page 1)

The UN General Assembly is considering a resolution deploring American moves to close the PLO mission.

It remained uncertain, however, whether the UN body would vote today, at the planned conclusion of its debate on the subject, on a resolution censuring the planned American action and repeating an appeal to Washington to desist.

A draft resolution has been repeatedly revised and is still subject to further change. Some delegates said the unusually confused situation could delay a vote until later.

Kaddoumi voiced a suspicion raised before by Palestinian leaders over Shultz's visit last month to the Middle East, after weeks of Palestinian unrest in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"Shultz is not coming to the area seeking peace but to contain the uprising," said Kaddoumi. "We expressed willingness to meet Shultz, but he didn't respond positively."

Accept

Kaddoumi, here for a meeting of 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference, told reporters the PLO believed Arab states, including Jordan, would not accept the Shultz plan.

He said the Arab states might not reject the plan outright, but would "express in an indirect way that Mr Shultz is a big failure for peace."

British forces hunt for soldiers' killers

Bomb detonated in Belfast

BELFAST, March 22, (Agencies): Soldiers detonated a homemade bomb found outside an apartment block early today as British searched for the killers of two British soldiers at an Irish Republican Army funeral.

In Londonderry, police appealed to residents of the mainly Catholic city for information about IRA gunmen who killed a policeman.

Device

Police chief Supt David Turkington said "someone must have seen" the gunmen who held a family hostage, fired from a row house and escaped in a hijacked car.

"Help us rid our society of terrorism which is threatening to drag the community into a bottomless pit of evil," Turkington said.

In Belfast, police sealed off an apartment block and surrounding area after a local member of Sinn Fein, the outlawed IRA's legal political front, reported the bomb in the Craigavon district on the city's outskirts.

The device, a hand grenade tied to a fishing line, was blown up.

Earlier, police reported finding two rifles, grenades and a pistol in Londonderry's Catholic shantytown district, the fourth weapons cache found in the city this week.

Britain said yesterday it had launched a "massive murder investigation" for the killers of

the two soldiers. They were dragged from their unmarked car, stripped, beaten and fatally shot after they drove into the IRA funeral on Saturday in West Belfast.

Suspects

Police sources said up to 30 suspects had been identified from television news film and an Army video taken from a helicopter.

Britain's two television networks, the British Broadcasting Corp. and independent Television News, said they have refused police demands to hand over untransmitted film of the rampage on grounds it would endanger their crews in the future.

Shamir remains adamant

(Continued from Page 1)

man's family believed he had been beaten by soldiers because he was found in an isolated area off limits to villagers.

A Palestinian died today when he was shot from a passing car in the southern Gaza Strip by assailants assumed to be Arab, Israeli Army radio said.

An Army spokesman confirmed the death and said the motive was apparently criminal.

Both Gaza killings were turned over to the police, the Army said. But Gaza police officials were quoted by Israeli Radio as saying they were unable to investigate many crimes due to the mass resignations last week of 380 Arab officers.

The officers resigned along with most of their Arab colleagues in the West Bank in accordance with orders issued by underground leaders of what Palestinians call "the uprising."

Crimes that have since gone uninvestigated include rape, murder, arson, and robbery, the police officials were quoted as saying.

Admitted

In other casualties today, officials at the Abli Arab Hospital in Gaza City said two men were admitted with injuries inflicted by Israeli troops.

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Arab justice ministers conference next month

THE Arab justice ministers are scheduled to hold their sixth conference in Kuwait on April 2.

The five-day council meeting, sponsored by the Arab League, is the result of perpetual search and ceaseless efforts by the League of Arab states to reach a uniform and comprehensive formula covering all judicial and legal aspects in the Arab nation.

Achievement
Motivated by their conviction that joint action, cooperation and consultations between them, is the proper means for achieving Arab aspirations and confronting current defiance, the Arab states have held top level meetings and conferences to discuss

issues of mutual concern.

During their first conference in Morocco in 1977, the ministers agreed and issued the Rabat declaration, which set down their goals and objectives.

During the second conference held in 1981 in Sanaa, capital of Yemen Arab Republic, stress was put on drafting uniform Arab legislations. In fact the Arab ministers upgraded their conference to the permanent status of "Arab Justice Ministers Council" during their Sanaa conference.

The most prominent judicial achievement ever, at the level of the Arab League, was the unanimous ratification of the uniform Arab agreement for judicial cooperation. This came during the first Arab ministers council meeting in Riyadh in April 1983.

Ratified

During their second council meeting in Baghdad on April 16, 1984, they ratified several proposals and recommendations for the establishment of the Arab trade arbitration board. They also agreed to set up a uniform judicial system including the unification of Arab court structures and titles, legal and judicial terms, real estate legislations and study to unify the remaining legislations.

12 nations, PLO agree on holding Arab summit

KUWAIT and 11 other Arab nations have agreed to attend the proposed extraordinary Arab summit to discuss the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories and means to support it financially and politically, Arab political sources said in Kuwait yesterday.

Host

In addition to Kuwait, the nations which officially agreed to attend the summit are Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Arab Yemen, Democratic Yemen, Sudan and Djibouti, the sources said, adding that the number of the nations has surpassed the required legal minimum of 11.

In its third meeting in Rabat on April 22, 1984, the Arab justice ministers resolved to form special committees for revising some issues, foremost the personal law and the Arab trade arbitration board.

Agenda

Achievements during the 4th council meeting in Rabat and Casablanca on April 14, 1986, included the ratification of the unified Arab judicial system titled "Casablanca system". Member states were asked to amend their local judicial legislations accordingly.

The latest council meeting was held in the Jordanian capital Amman, during which the Arab trade arbitration agreement was approved.

Preparations are under way in Kuwait as a prelude for the convocation of the Arab justice ministers council scheduled on 2 to 6 April.

Discussion is expected to focus on many topics on the agenda, topped by a report by the general secretariat on procedures required to implement previously issued resolutions, and the unification of Arab legislations including the uniform Arab personal law which is ready for final ratification by member states.



HH the Amir with Prince Salman (left).

Prince Salman ends visit

THE governor of Riyadh region Prince Salman bin Abdul Aziz left yesterday afternoon for home at conclusion of a four-day visit to Kuwait.

He was seen off by acting Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed as well as a number of sheikhs, ministers, senior state officials and the Saudi ambassador to Kuwait.

Earlier, HH the Amir received Prince Salman who bid the Amir farewell at the end of his visit to the country.

The Amir requested the Saudi official to convey his regards and best wishes to Saudi monarch King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, and Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Commander of the National Guard, Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz.

Egypt working to solve Palestinian problem: Rifaat

EGYPTIAN Ambassador to Kuwait, Saeed Rifaat has said yesterday that Egypt not only condemns the Israeli atrocities against the Palestinian people in the occupied lands but also has moved to change the status quo.

He added in an interview with the daily Saeed that his country has also worked to solve the Palestinian problem in light of the developments of the popular

uprising inside occupied Palestine.

On the restoration of Egypt's membership of the Arab League, the Egyptian diplomat said this does not preoccupies Egypt at present and "(Egypt's) return to (the Arab League) is a matter of time, no more... and it will be when all Arab countries feel the need for Egypt's return as they have felt the importance of restoring diplomatic relations with it."

Regarding the Gulf war, Rifaat said the Iraq-Iran war is a tragedy for Arab and Islamic countries, noting that it is not only a tragedy because of the bloodshed but also because it threatens the interests of all the

region's countries due to the insistence of one party to continue the war, in reference to Iran.

In this regard Rifaat called for the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 598 on an immediate ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war, and for adopting another resolution on an arms embargo on the party that rejects 598.

The Egyptian ambassador hailed Iraq for its favourable response to peace calls and its agreement to implement the United Nations resolutions.

Meanwhile, Rifaat praised the Egyptian-Kuwaiti ties, noting that the two countries share identical policies on major developments in the region.

Forger arrested

SECURITY officers at Kuwait International Airport arrested an Indian national for forging work permits and ID cards. Officers confiscated a number of forged ID cards from his residence in addition to tools he had used for the forgeries.

The accused, identified as Makoul, involved several others in the forgery ring including his partner Coni, Coni's partner Farida, an Indian woman and a fourth person Ceril, who according to Farida was responsible for the forged cards and worked as a security guard at the Ministries Complex.

Ceril admitted that he forged passports and ID cards for a price and had a Jordanian partner who worked as a passport representative for a local company.

Cleanliness campaign

A CLEANLINESS campaign to preserve the environment and public facilities, kicks off today in various areas of the country.

The programme, sponsored by the Environment Protection Council, aims at urging citizens to care for their environment and maintain public facilities.

According to the council's secretary Ibrahim Mohamed Hadi, the campaign aims at beautifying the city and caring for entertainment centres and public parks.

Also help halt vandalism which wastes public money spent for maintenance and repair works.

The week-long activity will also spread public cleanliness awareness among citizens, he said.

Participants at the campaign include ministries of Education, Public Health, Social Affairs and Labour and Kuwait Municipality, Agriculture Affairs and Fish Sources Authority, in addition to non-profit societies and banks.

ROYAL COURT

Amir to patronise

HH the Amir will patronise today a ceremony honouring the outstanding graduates of the colleges and centres of the Public Authority for the Applied Education and Training for the year 1986-87 at Sabah Al Salem hall at Khalidiya campus.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Call for Egypt's participation

THE Kuwaiti daily Al Rai Al Aam yesterday called for the participation of Egypt in the proposed Arab summit on the popular uprising in occupied Palestine saying Egypt has announced more than once its fulfilled support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinians.

"We wonder how an Arab summit can be convened on the uprising without Egypt," the newspaper wrote editorially, recalling that in his recent meeting with the PLO leader Yasser Arafat, President Hosni Mubarak reviewed the American peace plan and the current tour of the region by the US special envoy Philip Habib.

In the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman, Jordan, last November the Arab leaders voted to leave the door open for the Arab states to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt at will on individual bases. But the return of Egypt to the Arab League needs the unanimous consent of the League members who removed Egypt from their rank in the Baghdad summit in 1979 over its peace accord with Israel.

"In a ceaseless chain of initiatives, moves and contacts, President Mubarak succeeded in giving a live and magnified picture of the suffering of the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip," Al Rai Al Aam said, describing such a stand as "great, given the difficult circumstances of the Palestinian cause."

The newspaper concluded saying "the Egyptian role is effective and vital because of Egypt's political and strategic weight and its cordial relations with all the influential and effective parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Saudi purchase of missiles

THE United States is playing a "dangerous" game in the Middle East as it always adopts an Israeli stance not an American one, daily Al Watan said yesterday pointing out that America puts "Israel's interests first, second and tenth before American interests."

Commenting on Washington's "anxiety" over Saudi Arabia's purchase of Chinese-made missiles for defence purposes the paper said, America's policies in the region have always been subjected to Zionist pressures.

Al Watan pointed out that "America sold arms to Iran and still provides Israel with weapons free of charge despite its certain knowledge that those weapons will be directed toward Arab capitals."

Every Israeli arms acquisition is justifiable and accepted in Washington, but the US protests the Saudi purchase of Chinese missiles, the paper said.

Concerning the Israeli threat to destroy the Saudi missiles, Al Watan questioned, "where will the American responsibility be then and is Saudi Arabia a hostile state to the US...?"

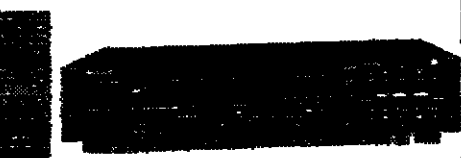
The paper stressed that any Israeli "wreckless" act against Saudi Arabia "will be undoubtedly taken against the US."

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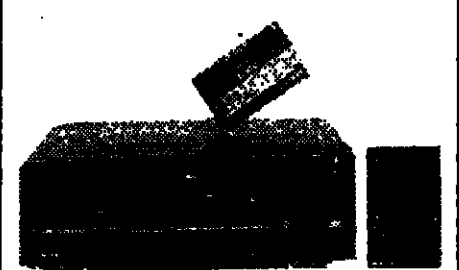
The future of Sony Video Laser Discs is unlimited. Already used widely for business, education and entertainment, we can expect these discs to be more and more important in every aspect of our lives.

How about DAT?



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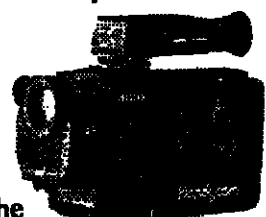


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KUWAIT ... GULF

Many youths complain

Families compete to get large dowries

ALTHOUGH there are efforts to do away with dowries or at least to reduce the amount, and some bedouin tribes have fixed the maximum amount for a dowry, many youths complain that they are asked for large dowries. They say they are also asked to give gold jewellery for the wedding ceremony.

A local newspaper said that the strange aspect was that families competed with each other to get larger dowries. It added that fathers considered their demand for a large dowry to be a measure of their love for their daughters.

Some families demand KD 20,000, excluding other marriage requirements. Setting figures for dowries implies a commodity is

for sale and most reasonable father considers large dowries unjust.

Some tribes felt it was necessary to stop soaring dowries, and set a limit to the amount.

Symposiums

Several youths said that many problems would result from demands for large dowries. They explained that spinsterhood and outside marriages would create social problems in the future. They said they could not be blamed if they married other Arab or foreign girls because they could not meet the large dowry demands.

The youths called for holding symposiums to discuss the matter and urged fathers to follow

Islamic values. They considered the demand for high dowries to be the result of greed.

One youth, Mohammad Awwad, told the newspaper that fathers who demanded large dowries were like merchants trying to sell goods at the highest price. He said that most fathers didn't really realise the financial situation of youths. He described dowries as back-breaking, and said there were other demands as well. He said this was un-Islamic.

Comply

Another youth, Mohammed Abdullah Al Otaibi, said large dowries would cause many social problems. He said that a great many Kuwaiti youths gave up the hope of marrying Kuwaiti

girls and married others.

Khaled Al Shemari said he tried to marry a Kuwaiti girl, but her father demanded a dowry of KD10,000 and made other demands as well. He said he almost fainted on hearing the figure. He said he was still single. He urged fathers to comply with Islamic values and suggested symposiums on television about the problem caused by large dowries and about marriage in general.

Abdulla Al Heial said the government helped in solving the problem of large dowries to an extent by giving financial help to youths wishing to marry. He suggested that officials and societies set up a special fund to help employees wanting to marry.

New batch of nurses graduate

PUBLIC Health Minister Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak yesterday said the nursing profession is a lofty occupation, urging youths to work in this humanitarian field.

Speaking before the graduation ceremony of the 23rd batch of the nursing institute, Dr Abdul Razzak praised the role of nurses in relieving patients of their sufferings while calling for sincerity when dealing with sick people.

The minister handed out certificates to 49 graduates who studied at the nursing institute for three years.

Since its establishment in 1964, 930 nurses, 505 of whom were Kuwaitis, graduated from the institutes.

Fundamentalism is a menace



Abdul Rahiman

A MUSLIM scholar from Kerala has said that "fundamentalism" is a menace in contemporary India and adversely affects that country's progress. O Abdul Rahiman recently gave a talk on "Fundamentalism and communalism" held at the Indian embassy auditorium, Kuwait.

Abdul Rahiman is the Principal of Islahiya College, Kerala, and is currently in Kuwait at the invitation of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to take part in the "cultural series, featuring lectures". The Islahiya College is an institute of higher education for Arabic and Islamic philosophy.

He criticised some of the factions in India for exploiting religion for political purposes. He said "no religion propagates hatred", lamenting the loss of religious and moral values.

Abdul Rahiman also gave a talk on Kuwait Television's Understanding Islam programme.

Abdul Rahiman has authored several books including "Quran: A Critical Study" and "Rationalists in Islam".

Syrian envoy

KUWAITI Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed yesterday received Syrian Ambassador to Kuwait Issa Darwish during which they exchanged cordial talks.

Darwish's visit was to congratulate Sheikh Nawaf on assuming portfolio of the Defence Ministry.

Austrian health delegation

HEALTH Undersecretary Dr Nael Al Naquib yesterday received an Austrian health delegation.

During the delegation's four-day visit to the country, the members will visit a number of health facilities that are supervised by the Health Ministry.

The delegation comprises of six doctors.

13 accidents

FOUR persons were injured when two cars collided on Khalidiya Street yesterday. One of the cars overturned after the collision.

There were 13 traffic accidents in Kuwait yesterday.

Five took place in Jahra, four in Ahmedi, three in Hawalli and one in the capital.

Dr Abdul Razzak (right) presents a certificate to a graduate.

Sheikh Saad receives British MPs

LONDON, March 22. (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah received at his residence here last night a delegation of the British House of Commons and House of Lords.

The delegation, comprising nine deputies and lords from the Conservative and Labour Parties, was accompanied by chief of the London-based Gulf Center for Strategic Studies Dr Omar Al Hassan.

Some of the delegates were among the British parliamentary group that last month toured a number of Gulf Cooperation Council countries, including Kuwait and Iraq.

Workers to reply today

NEGOTIATIONS did not take place yesterday between the 32 Indian workers and their employer, the Al Ajmi & Partners Trading and Contracting Company, but the two parties are expected to hold talks today.

The chairman of the company Ali Al Ajmi, had given the employees upto yesterday to accept the new terms he had offered, adding that he would be forced to take other steps if the drivers rejected the new terms.

The workers are expected to give a reply today to Al Ajmi's offer.

It is understood he will give them more time to make up their minds.

Handicapped Week begins today

THE Third National Week of the Handicapped begins today under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed Al Sabah, Kuwait's Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, will open the week's activities with a charity bazaar at the Faculty of Commerce in the Udaifiya area. Products from the Club for the Handicapped and the Society for the Blind will be sold at the bazaar in addition to items donated by companies and shops.

New law

According to a Kuwaiti daily a new draft law has been approved by the Council of Ministers which legislates that care be provided for handicapped persons.

Handicapped Kuwaitis will receive services provided by the state and non-Kuwaitis can receive services after approval by the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour. The draft law further

Rqobah receives five envoys

ELECTRICITY and Water Minister, Homoud Al Rqobah yesterday received at his office the ambassadors of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Yemen Arab Republic, Morocco and Federal Germany.

The minister exchanged cordial talks with the diplomats.

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Sea-Land Services Inc.
United Arab Shipping Co. (SAG)



Sheikh Salem looks at the work of a department (above) and holds a meeting with high-ranking officers (below).



Sheikh Salem visits General Traffic Department

INTERIOR Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah yesterday toured the General Traffic Department accompanied by director-general Brig. Fuad Mussad Al Saleh and directors of various departments.

Sheikh Salem later listened to an explanation from Col. Salem Al Roumi at the capital traffic department on progress of work there.

The minister inspected the computer section at the General Traffic Department and later toured the planning department.

Sheikh Salem then spoke to directors of departments on the vital factor of traffic in the society and explained important role of the policemen in ensuring security on roads in accordance with the stable doctrine "the policeman is your friend as long as you are his friend."

He asked them to be firm in applying the laws and to pursue field visits to follow up work of traffic cadres.

Citizens should be informed of their duties and legal rights, the minister underlined, stressing that violators should be treated well.

Sheikh Sabah meetings

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah yesterday received Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed and Minister of Electricity and Water, Homoud Al Rqobah.

Sheikh Sabah also met with the new director and members of board of directors of Kuwaiti Journalists Association.

Sheikh Sabah received messages from Iraq's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and the Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias.

Aziz's message, which was delivered by the Iraqi Ambassador to Kuwait Assem Yakoub Yousif, deals with conference of Islamic countries' foreign ministers, currently convening in Amman, Jordan, Sheikh Sabah told Kuna.

He noted that Kuwait's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Osaimi, heading the Kuwaiti delegation to the Islamic conference, will confer with Arab foreign ministers taking part in the meetings, for coordinating stances towards the conference's topics.

The second message, which was delivered by the Greek Ambassador to Kuwait Constantine Tsokos, deals with bilateral relations and Greece's request for backing its nominee to membership of the Security Council for 1989/90, Sheikh Sabah said.

Greece is nominated to fill one of two seats in the Security Council, representing Western Europe and other states.

Sheikh Hamad continues talks with British leaders

LONDON, March 22. (Kuna): Qatar's Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani continued here today his talks with British leaders by meeting Britain's Energy Secretary Cecil Parkinson.

Later, he received at his residence in central London British Minister for the Arts, Richard Luce.

This afternoon, Sheikh Hamad will be the guest of honour at a luncheon to be hosted by the heir to the British throne, Prince Charles.

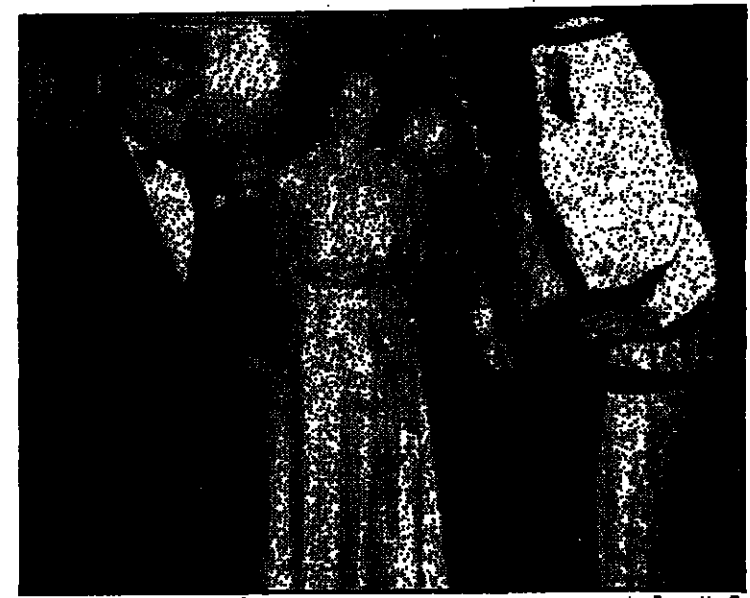
Last night he attended a banquet offered by Britain's Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and the daughter of Britain's Queen, Princess Anne, was also present.

Meanwhile, the Qatari Finance and Petroleum Minister, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bin Khalifa, and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sheikh Ahmad Bin Saif Al Thani, who are accompanying the crown prince, were having today a series of bilateral meetings with their British counterparts.

Economic

This morning Sheikh Abdul Aziz conferred with Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, Nigel Lawson, on world economic issues of interest to the two countries.

Sheikh Ahmad Bin Saif met his British counterpart, David Mellor, to continue yesterday's discussions between the Qatari crown prince and British leaders, covering the Iran-Iraq war and the Palestinian problem and bilateral issues, diplomatic sources said.



Princess Anne talks to Sheikh Hamad. They met for a dinner hosted by Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe (left).

Yesterday, Sheikh Hamad met British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher over a working lunch and the exchanges concentrated on the current moves by the UN to bring the Iran-Iraq war to an early end and "the peace process" in the Middle East, the sources added.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the setting-up of an international peace conference on the Middle East.

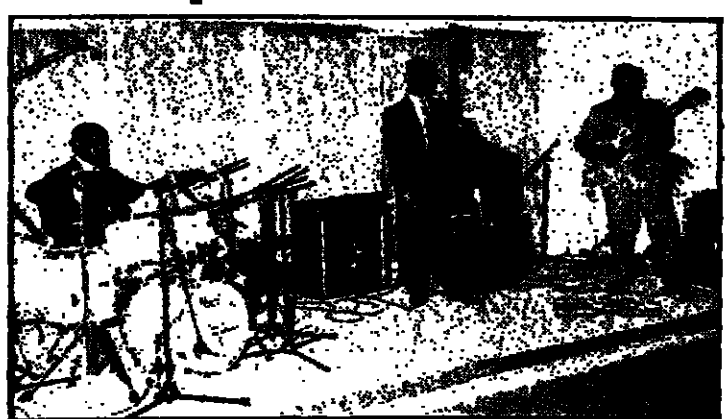
The Qatari crown prince stressed during the meeting his country's pledge to work for securing the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people including their right to self-determination and a state of their own, it was pointed out.

The continued Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza and its implications on prospects for peace in the region were also looked at.

Earlier Monday Sheikh Hamad, who is also Qatar's Defence Minister, discussed with British Defence Secretary George Younger methods of developing bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries.

This afternoon, the Qatari crown prince was due to meet GCC ambassadors to the UK including the Kuwaiti envoy Ghazi Al Rayes.

Eubanks Trio strike a responsive chord



The Kevin Eubanks Trio tune their instruments before they delve into their brand of jazz. (Photo by Javed Basra)

By Jadranka Porter

THE Kevin Eubanks Trio from the US gave a taste of their brand of jazz on Monday night to an audience of diplomats and prominent Kuwaitis at the American ambassador's residence.

The trio led by Eubanks, a master jazz guitarist, who was accompanied by Rael Wesley on bass and Eugene Jackson on drums, played numbers which combined traditional jazz with elements of rock and funk. If they lapsed into improvisation from time to time, as could be expected, they did so with a mastery of top class musicians whose high technical skill matches their creativity.

Particularly remarkable was the harmony in which the three musicians performed the numbers that abounded in abrupt changes of rhythm and mood with interludes of calmness in between the sequences that have been described as heated frenzy,

frenetic and speed with subtlety. If a listener is a type of person for whom music can be a visual experience then Eubanks' music can play havoc with the little device in the brain which turns sound into images.

What starts as a gentle pitapat of raindrops on a roof turns into a devastating hurricane within seconds to culminate in a passage which speedily grows in force and loudness becoming a musical equivalent of the horror from The Day After.

Eubanks' music is an acquired taste. What his trio did on Monday night was enough to strike a responsive chord and raise curiosity. But it was not enough to show all the three talented musicians can do.

The evening started with several numbers of Arabic music played by the members of the Kuwait University Music Club. The mellow oriental sound of the pieces evoked exotic images of leisurely opulence and complemented the garden party atmosphere.

Turkey hopeful about pumping its water to Gulf

BAHRAIN, March 22. (Reuter): An ambitious project to pump drinking water from Turkey to the Middle East and Gulf is drawing positive responses from Arab states, a senior Turkish official said today.

But the official added that on top of the interest, government decisions were needed to get the project started.

The project, dubbed the "peace pipeline", aims to pump six million cubic metres of water daily from Turkey by pipelines to Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

A group of Turkish officials are touring Gulf states to promote the project and

encourage a full feasibility study. "In the countries we visited so far, the officials expressed great interest and I am very hopeful for the future of the project," Necati Utkan, deputy director-general of economic affairs at the Turkish foreign ministry told Reuters.

He said that Turkey had contacted Syria, Jordan, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain so far this year and the group would also travel to Qatar, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

"Turkey feels that if the countries in the region are linked with economic ties like this pipeline, this would help promote peace as well as boosting economic growth and welfare," Utkan said.

American becomes first woman to win Saudi award

RIYADH, March 22. (Reuter): An American scientist today became the first woman to receive a King Faisal international award since the awards were created nine years ago.

Professor Janet Davison Rowley, 62, of the University of Chicago, shared the medicine award with British scientist Melvyn F. Greaves, 46, director of the Leukaemia Research Fund Centre at London's Institute of Cancer Research.

"It's an extreme honour to receive this prize," Rowley said before the presentation. "I am aware that I am the first woman who has received this prize and that is a particular pleasure."

Saudi Interior Minister Prince Naif Bin Faisal presented the awards, created in memory of King Faisal who was assassinated in 1975. Winners receive a gold medallion and 350,000

riyals (\$94,000). Filipino Ahmad Domocao Alonto, 68, won the service to Islam award for his work with a constitutional commission studying the possibility of autonomy for Muslims in the southern Philippines.

Two men associated with Saudi universities, professor Mohammed Qutb, 68, from Egypt and Dr Mikdad Yalcin, 50, from Turkey, shared the Islamic studies award for books they wrote on Islamic education.

The Arabic literature award went to authors Mohammed Bin Sharifah, 57, of Morocco, and Mahmoud Maaki, 59, from Egypt.

The science award was shared by Mexican psycho-biologist Ricardo Miledi, 60, for his work on nerve cells, and French biochemist Pierre Chambon, 56, for his work with genes.

Wheeling and dealing

By Shaun Seekins

OLIVER Stone has followed up Platoon with another potential blockbuster in Wall Street. At times the film seems to be a crash (October's) was yet to come when the film was made) course in financial manoeuvres, macho sales talk and how to make a quick million or two and is rather lacking in those human touches that make a film memorable. Yet, once again Stone manages to pull an Academy Award calibre performance from each of his two main actors, Martin Sheen and Michael Douglas.

As corporate raider Gordon Gekko, Douglas is a slick, high powered seducer who tempts his young protégé, Bud Fox (Charlie Sheen) into performing such dirty work as stock manipulation, corporate spy-

ing and insider trading in return for a glimpse of the good life.

Martin Sheen's Carl Fox, on the other hand is an honest hardworking union "rep" who ultimately becomes a sacrificial lamb, betrayed by his own son so Gekko can take over his airline. The film is at its best early on, when Stone establishes a morally diseased atmosphere of wheeling and dealing, ably supported by Robert Richardson's fast-moving camera and the decayed opulence of Stephen Henderson's sets. Here, Wall Street becomes a treasure trove of decadent metaphors ranging from its grotesque, primitive artwork to the up-market whores and raw meat dinners devoured by Gekko and his cronies.

"Lunch is for wimps," expounds Gekko who seems to sustain himself solely by gobbling up corporations. And,

taking the available competition into account, Wall Street should take over the market here in Kuwait.

From high-powered finance we move to a film that is pure entertainment. Based on a book written by Barbara Cartland *Hazard of Hearts*, the plot is not exactly new but it is performed with such gusto by an array of excellent actors. That the rollicking bodice-ripping tale of smuggling, gambling, love and hate is a pleasure to watch.

Serena (Helena Bonham Carter) and her inheritance are lost at the tables by her gambling father (Christopher Plummer) to the man she hates the most, Lord Wrotham (Edward Fox) a wickedly cruel man three times her age. He in turn loses her to Lord Vulcan (Marcus Gilbert), young, handsome and haughty — but yes, no, yes, he has a heart, which he



Charlie Sheen and Michael Douglas in Wall Street

loses on sight to the fragile young Serena.

Diana Rigg plays Lady Vulcan, who has such a desire for gambling that she turns her country house into a casino and finances the whole thing by running smuggling trips to France. She is so despicable (hiss! hiss!) she even faked the death of her husband (Stewart Granger) so that her son could inherit the title and she could get her hands on his inheritance. Her hubby, meanwhile, lives a quiet life in a secret underground room writing a history of the house.

But Serena's future has to be sorted out once and for all and Lady Vulcan's idea is to do away with her by using a swordstick, and so we have the fabulous sight of Diana Rigg in full, bright red, evening dress flying through the smuggler's caverns in hot pursuit of Serena (dressed in virginal white, of course) only to be met by Edward Fox and his little dog-



Helena Bonham Carter, Marcus Gilbert and Diana Rigg in Hazard of Hearts

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery

Egyptian artist Magdi Kenawy is showing his latest collection of lithographs and prints at the gallery in Salfiya Complex. The exhibition is open daily from 9 am to 12:30 pm and 4 to 8 pm, until March 31.

Sultan Gallery

An exhibition of oil paintings by Pakistani artist Yasmeen Bhatia will be held at the gallery, Al Soor St., from March 28. It will be open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 5 to 8 pm.

EDUCATION

Higher Education in UK Exhibition

Representatives from universities all over Britain are giving expert advice on courses and admissions procedures at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel. A selection of information on undergraduate and postgraduate study will be available. The exhibition is open on Wednesday from 4 to 8 pm.

MUSIC

Upasana

Upasana presents a musical evening on Thursday, April 7, at 7:30 pm consisting of Ganapathri (mainly South Indian film songs) and on Friday, April 8 at 6:00 pm a Geethanjali programme (mainly Hindi film songs) at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium (Funaites). For further information and passes contact 5643643 or 3987409.

Rock 'n' Romance

Kuwait Players present "Rock 'n' Romance," directed by June Stevenson and Phil Thomas, at 8 pm tonight and at 3 pm and 8 pm on Thursday. For reservation call 5624175, after 2 pm; or 5745838.

Musical Nite

Funkada, a local music group, will hold Rang Trang, a musical nite, on March 24, 7:30 pm, at the Sharq Cooperative Society Hall. Entrance is by invitations only. Contact the organisers for details.

SOCIAL

Pakistan Day

A flag-hoisting ceremony to mark the Pakistan Day will be held at 9 am today at the Pakistan Embassy premises on Istiqal Street. All Pakistanis are welcome.

Kuwait Welsh Society

The Society will hold "Nosen Lawen," 8 pm, April 7. For details phone 3912384; 4874548.

Flag-hoisting ceremony

A flag-hoisting ceremony will be held at 9 am on March 26 at the Bangladesh Embassy premises in Jabriya to mark the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh. All Bangladeshis are invited.

Get-acquainted social gathering

All Bangladeshi computer professionals are invited to a get-acquainted social gathering. For details phone 2411610 (7 am to 1 pm); 4841748 (4 to 8 pm); 3714096 (4-8 pm).

May Queen

The May Queen will be crowned at a special event which will be held on May 16 at the Sheraton Hotel. Highlight of the evening will be a fashion show of clothes designed by Tapan Ray. Two local bands, Stepping Stones and City Limits — will provide entertainment. The event is being organised by the Kuwait Goans Association.

Weekend Club

The Club will host "Summer Queen '88" on the first day of Eid Al Fitr at the Regency Palace Hotel. The highlight of the evening will be the crowning of the Summer Queen '88 by last year's winner. Musical entertainment will be by Next of Kin and Top Ranks with Adolf performing latest numbers.

Filipino Get-together

The next "kumustahan" (get-together) will be held on Saturday, March 26, in the Church Hall. All Filipinos are invited. Free snacks will be served. Admission free.

Party for Volunteers

The Handicapped Society invites all volunteers to a tea party at the Plaza Hotel at 5 pm on Wednesday, March 23.

SPORTS

Sports Festival for Children

A sports festival for Bangladeshi children will be held on April 8. Tel: 4840759; 4710306; 5716586; 3903605. Only Bangladeshi children are welcome. Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club

The annual seven-a-side tournament takes place on Thursday, March 24. All players are requested to report to the ground at 3:30 pm.

E.M.A.C. Tournament

A tennis tournament for under-16s will be held from April 13 to 16 at the SAS Hotel. Participating teams are from Abu Dhabi, Oman, Damascus, American School of Kuwait, Universal American School, Kuwait English School and New English School. The tournament has been organised by E.M.A.C. (Eastern Mediterranean Activities Conference.)

Filipinos hold Mini-Olympics

March 31 is the last date for submitting completed application for the Palarong Filipino (mini-Olympics). Teams failing to submit entries will be disqualified. Final sports meeting to discuss arrangement of games will be held at 2 pm on April 8 at the Philippines Embassy. The games will be held from May 16. For further details contact Bong Melencio — 4877793.

Interschol Knockout '88

The semi-finals of the Interschol Knockout 1988 takes place tonight. The Grand Final takes place on Wednesday on April 13. The event features student and teacher teams from Kuwait's schools in a series of exciting games. Barbecue dinner and beverages will be served by the poolside. Valuable prizes. For details contact the hotel.

Salute United Whist Drive

Salute United will hold a Whist Drive-cum-Tea Party for its members and guests on Friday, April 8, 3:30 pm at Ramada Al Salam Hotel. For details contact D'Costa - 2439000 ext 2537 and Agnello - 2460983.

Tivim Centre Football

Tivim Centre, Kuwait, will hold a seven-a-side football tournament on Thursday, March 25, at Al Sour Grounds. Draw will be held at 6:30 am. Play commences at 7 am. For details contact D'Mello - 2434634; Almeida - 4813892.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players

Kuwait players present "Wait Until Dark," a suspense drama by Frederick Knott, directed by Mike Conden, starring Jennifer Gailand and Derrick Hicks. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa, at 8 pm on March 28, 29, 30, 31. For reservations phone 5657749; 5332568.

HOTELS

At the Meridian

Kiwi Festival features the fruit in cocktails, salads, main courses and pastries. The promotion is being held in La Brasserie, Al Waha and Al Fing. The festival ends on April 3.

Dine in the Versailles Restaurant and enjoy jazz music and ballads presented by Tony and Jenny's band. The band plays in the restaurant on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

At the Sheraton

Dine in the Hunt Room with live music by the Trio Paradise. For lunch the Hunt Room offers a la carte. Treasures of the deep specialties are served in the Al Hambra on Wednesday night. Dine to the music by the World Machine Band.

At the SAS

The Peacock Room offers Chinese dining from Peking to Szechuan daily for lunch and dinner, except Saturday.

Al Boom is one of the exciting eating places in town. The restaurant on the traditional dhow offers Oriental and Western cuisine for dinner, nightly.

At the Hilton

The all-day dining restaurant, La Palma, offers Oriental, Continental and international cuisine, as well as a large array of sweets and desserts. Open for lunch and dinner. A full American buffet breakfast is available from 6:30 am to 11 am. Open daily from 6:30 am to midnight.

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.28 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	6.02
Isha	7.19

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Ahsam Pharmacy
Souk Muttahada, Fahad Al Salem St.
Al Hafez Pharmacy
Souk Wafeg, Salah Al Din St.

Hawalli and Nugra
Al Madinah Pharmacy
Othman Complex, Bin Khalidoun St.

Salimiya and Rumaithiya
Al Dana Pharmacy
Shua Al Sabah Bldg., Amman St.

Fahabeeh and Ahmadi
Al Sheba Pharmacy
Late Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Bldg., F'heel

Jeeb Al Shiyoukh
Al Ayoub Pharmacy
Shuwaikh Commercial Complex

Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Souk

CINEMA

Al Andalus
White Apache
Starring: Sebastian, Nola Font

Al Salimiya
Real Genius
Starring: William Anderson

Al Hamra
Welcome to 18
Starring: Christian Koffman

Drive-In
Rajul Didi Al Kanoun (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmood Yassin, Mirvat Ameen

Al Firdous
Jallianwala Bagh (Hindi)
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Shabana Azmi

Fahabeeh Open-Air
Maang Bhara Sajna (Hindi)

Al Fahabeeh
Al Mal'oub (Arabic)

Al Jahra
The Enforcer

Granada
Shabab Fi Al Jaheem (Arabic)

Salaikhah
Irappatham (Malayalam)

Al Jeeb
Sword and Sorceress

Ahmadi Drive-In
Al Marat Wal Kanoun (Arabic)

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Ibtal Al Mu'ab: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 World News via Satellite
- 4.25 Li'uyoun Sadran: Arabic serial, featuring Adel Afana, Abeer Essa, Rashida Dajani, Dawood Jalal
- 5.15 Bain Al Ams Wa Al Youm: between Yesterday and Today. Fatima Al Toq hosts the show
- 6.10 Songs
- 7.05 With Students: hosted by Essa Rushoud
- 7.45 Folklore: a local programme, presented by Mohammad Mutairi
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local news
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Layali Hilmiya: Arabic serial
- 10.50 Music Studio: a variety show featuring Ghared Shatti, Omar Al Rajae, Shaker Zuaid, Mohammad Omar
- 11.45 News Summary
- 11.50 World News via Satellite
- 12.25 Holy Quran/Closedown



Richard (David Selby) and Maggie (Susan Sullivan) look for Vicky, kidnapped by some powerful men in Falcon Crest, tonight at 10.30 pm, KTV 2.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Get Along Gang: cartoon series
- 6.30 The Micro at Work: "Robots in Action." A look at robots used in making cars.
- 6.50 The Living Isles: "Under the Plough."
- 7.30 Growing Pains: "Carnival." Maggie neglects her son to take part in a carnival.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 J.J. Starbuck: "Murder by Design." A man blackmails a woman publisher who plots to murder the blackmailer.
- 9.30 The World of Strange

- Power: "Mind Over Matter." The human mind is said to be powerful tool. A look at mind benders.
- 10.00 Perfect Strangers: "Ten Speed and Soft Launch." Larry and Balki take a juvenile delinquent under their wing.
- 10.30 Falcon Crest: Vicky has been kidnapped and taken to Yugoslavia. Will Richard reach on time to rescue her? Starring: Jane Wyman, Susan Sullivan, David Selby, Dana Sparks, Ana Alicia.
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

STARTS: MARCH 23 1988
ENDS: OCTOBER 31 1988

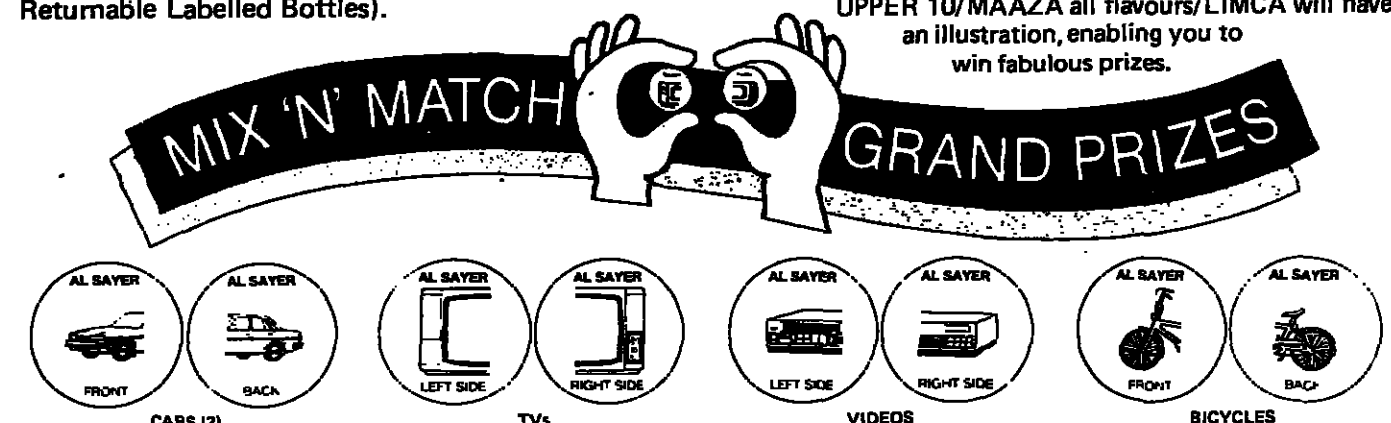


DRINK 'N' WIN

EXCITING PRIZES!

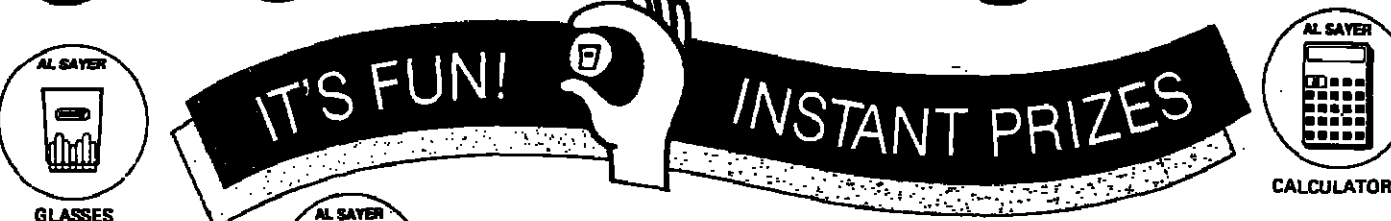
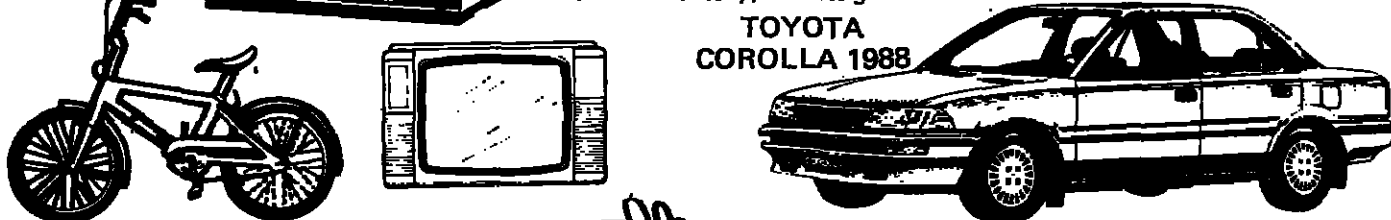
Al-Sayer introduces a fantastic scheme with lots of attractive prizes. (For RC COLA/UPPER 10/MAAZA all flavours/LIMCA in Returnable & Non-Returnable Labeled Bottles).

Starting from March 1988, the lining under every Crown and Screw Cap on bottles of RC COLA UPPER 10/MAAZA all flavours/LIMCA will have an illustration, enabling you to win fabulous prizes.



There are certain prizes with just half an illustration on a single Crown/Cap lining. All you have to do is keep a look-out for the other half of the illustration. When you have both the matching linings, claim your gift from our Factory, address given below.

TOYOTA
COROLLA 1988



Win instantly. Exchange these Crown/Cap linings for the gifts illustrated, from your Area Salesman or our Factory.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

FROM the little spark may burst a mighty flame —
Dante Alighieri, Italian poet (1265-1321).East bloc reforms
clash with party role

By Colin McIntyre

VIENNA, (Reuters): Can East European countries reform their economies without undermining the leading role of the Communist Party, one of the fundamental principles of the Soviet system?

As Soviet bloc states agonise over how to reform their rigid systems and try to close a growing economic gap with the West, the question is asked increasingly both by insiders and outside observers.

The official view among East bloc reformers is that elements of a Western-style market economy and a measure of political liberalisation can be welded onto an orthodox communist centralised planning system.

Many people do not believe that economies can be given sufficient freedom within orthodox centralised planning and political decision-making.

"Democratic centralism is a nonsense," Lajos Bokros, a senior official in the Hungarian National Bank and a party member, told Reuters. "You can have one or the other, but not both."

Change

The Hungarians are at one end of the scale of change, with even top party and government leaders in Budapest arguing that modern society has become too complex for one group alone to be in sole charge, and that the party should pull back.

At the other end are countries such as East Germany and Romania, which say they have no need of the reforms advocated by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and that the party must continue to be paramount.

In between are Czechoslovakia, Poland and Bulgaria, which recognise the need for reforms to bring new life into stagnant economies, but are unsure how far, how fast, and in which direction to go.

Bulgaria provided an illustration of how seriously any questioning of the party's role is viewed last year when party leader Todor Zhivkov was reported by Western diplomats to have been told by Moscow to slow

down on reforms.

The diplomats said Moscow appeared worried that Bulgaria, its most loyal ally, was pushing through changes too fast and not putting sufficient stress on the party's leading role.

For many people both inside and outside the communist system, one of the key issues is whether the party is prepared to give up its right to appoint managers of enterprises, a choice that is based usually more on political than managerial qualifications.

Yet for any real restructuring of the economy to be effective, the best qualified people must be picked, diplomats say.

"When the party is cut off from large areas of appointments, its role shrinks, and this is causing deep concern among its members," a Western diplomat in Warsaw said.

"The ability to make appointments is what gives the party its power," he said. "Take this away, and all it has is the threat of force."

He said the key problem during the emergence of the Polish independent trade union Solidarity in 1980 was that the party lost power. "The forces of law and order re-established it in power."

In Hungary, alone among Soviet bloc countries, there is a growing recognition that the party's role in deciding every area of the country's economic and social life has to change.

A redefinition of the party's leading role, and discussion of other basic socialist concepts already questioned such as egalitarianism and the superiority of state ownership, will be among the main issues at a special party conference in May.

According to Istvan Petrovski, who heads a department in the party's Central Committee: "The direction of the change is that we become a policy-making party, do not govern instead of the government, do not draft laws instead of the national assembly (parliament) and do not take measures instead of the economic management."

Soviet pullout likely to
lead to Afghan bloodbath

By Robert Mahoney

ISLAMABAD, (Reuters): What will happen in Afghanistan if peace breaks out in Geneva?

That's the question exercising the legions of Afghan specialists based in neighbouring Pakistan.

"My crystal ball is distinctly cloudy," said one seasoned diplomat after enumerating half a dozen scenarios ranging from a bloodbath to a military stalemate if the Russians leave Afghanistan.

His vision may become a little clearer after meetings this week in Washington between US Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

The United States, which with Pakistan backs Muslim guerrillas fighting Moscow and its Kabul ally, hopes the meetings will revive stalled Afghan peace talks in Geneva.

Nobody besides some sceptical guerrillas doubts that Russian soldiers will leave Afghanistan.

After nearly nine years of a costly war which has earned Moscow widespread condemnation, Mikhail Gorbachev is anxious to bring his 115,000 troops home.

It is the manner and the timing of their leaving that is crucial.

Collapse

Conventional wisdom among the Afghan watchers is that the Kabul government of President Najibullah with its demoralised conscript army will collapse soon after the Russians go.

The Mujahideen guerrillas, who claim to control 80 per cent of Afghanistan, certainly think so.

The Army would fall apart without the Russians, and regional militias are already sympathetic to the rebels, says Najibullah Laifraie, of the Jamiat-i-Islami guerrilla group.

That is why he and other guerrillas do not believe the Soviet Army will withdraw completely and hand Afghanistan to them.

The seven-party guerrillas alliance has opposed the Geneva negotiations and demanded direct talks with Moscow solely about a withdrawal.

If the Soviet Union does not grant their demand the Muslim

guerrillas say they will fight to drive every last Soviet soldier out of their country.

They believe the Russians would stay on in the guise of advisers to prop up the Kabul administration and withdraw their regular forces to bases just over border from where they could be rapidly deployed.

Many Western and Asian diplomats also doubt that the Soviet Union wants to leave a political and military vacuum in Afghanistan after having spent so much trying to secure its soft Asian underbelly.

"They want out but they want to minimise the damage," a Kabul-based envoy said.

Hence the Soviet desires to secure a Geneva accord which would be guaranteed by both superpowers and provide for no outside interference in Afghanistan.

As part of the deal Washington is insisting that Moscow cut off military aid to Kabul in return for an end to US help to the guerrillas. This is the key issue blocking the signature of the agreement which Shultz hopes to overcome with Shevardnadze.

Obstacle

Another obstacle has been Pakistan's demand for a neutral interim government in Kabul to oversee the withdrawal. Without it Islamabad fears fighting would continue and deter its three million Afghan refugees from going home.

If the Geneva accords are signed Moscow will be able to bask in the warmth of international approbation, especially if television screens show Soviet soldiers waving farewell before the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in May.

The war could go on, however, as not all military analysts are convinced the "People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan" (PDPA) administration in Kabul would fold despite its bitter factional fighting.

"Kabul is the guerrillas' most important goal and it is well defended," a diplomat in the city said.

"Even if they cut off aid under the agreement the Soviets could leave behind quite a lot of military hardware for the Kabul government...."

Concrete and reliable information has surfaced

By Louis Rene Beres

WASHINGTON: Recent speculation about Israel's nuclear weapons status has been more compelling than usual. Until October 1986, most conjecture was based on some form of extrapolation from Israel's commercial nuclear power facilities: the probable amount of fissionable material they produced as a byproduct, and so on. Since then, however, more concrete and reliable information has surfaced. The information has its origins in what has come to be known as the "Vanunu Affair."

In an Oct 5, 1986, interview with London's Sunday Times, Mordechai Vanunu, a disaffected former technician employed by Israel's classified Dimona nuclear complex, revealed startling new information: "Far from being a nuclear pygmy," Vanunu said, "the evidence is that Israel must now be regarded as a major nuclear power, ranking sixth in the atomic league table with a stockpile of at least 100 nuclear weapons, and with the components and ability to

build atomic, neutron, or hydrogen bombs." Of course, Vanunu's reports may be inaccurate or intentionally misleading, but other evidence tends to corroborate at least the basic profile of a nuclear-weapons state.

Significantly, some of Israel's nuclear arsenal may employ principles of fusion. Relying on the technology of the H-bomb, these weapons would contain an atom-bomb-style nuclear core which, if detonated, ignites "fusion material" within the weapon's shell. The result of such "boosting" would be bombs with yields that are hundreds to thousands of times greater than those of simple fission weapons.

Strategy

It is quite likely, therefore, that Israel does have advanced forms of nuclear weapons capability and that it would be prudent for Israel to develop carefully an associated strategy for exploiting this capability.

Indeed, during the past several years in Israel, a small number of scholars have suggested that the government shift from its long-standing policy of "deliberate ambiguity" to one of "disclosure." These scholars contend that it is no longer cost-effective for Israel to have a bomb "in the basement" — that it would be better to bring it into the light for all to see. Fueling this position is the understanding that Israel's conventional superiority vis-a-vis the Arabs, and perhaps Iran in the future, cannot be sustained indefinitely.

Disclosure

Much of the argument for disclosure is based on the example of Soviet-American nuclear deterrence. Because this theatre of deterrence has held for 40 years, it is argued, a similar condition of stable equilibrium could be expected for the Middle East. In my judgment such an argument is entirely misconceived.

● In the first place, the fact that there has been no nuclear war between the superpowers thus far suggests little about the long-term durability of deterrence.

● In the second place, there is little point in comparing Soviet-American relations and safeguards with those that would prevail in a nuclearised Middle East. The required conditions of rationality and of physical and behavioural safeguards that now operate between the superpowers are unlikely to be reproduced in the Middle East. Nor is there any valid resemblance between the adversaries: essentially a one-on-one relationship in the superpower configuration and a one-against-many relationship in the Middle East.

● Finally, the evolution of nuclear doctrine between the superpowers — from MAD (mutual assured destruction) to NUT (nuclear utilisation theory) — would likely develop in the

Middle East as well; the effects are apt to be seriously destabilising.

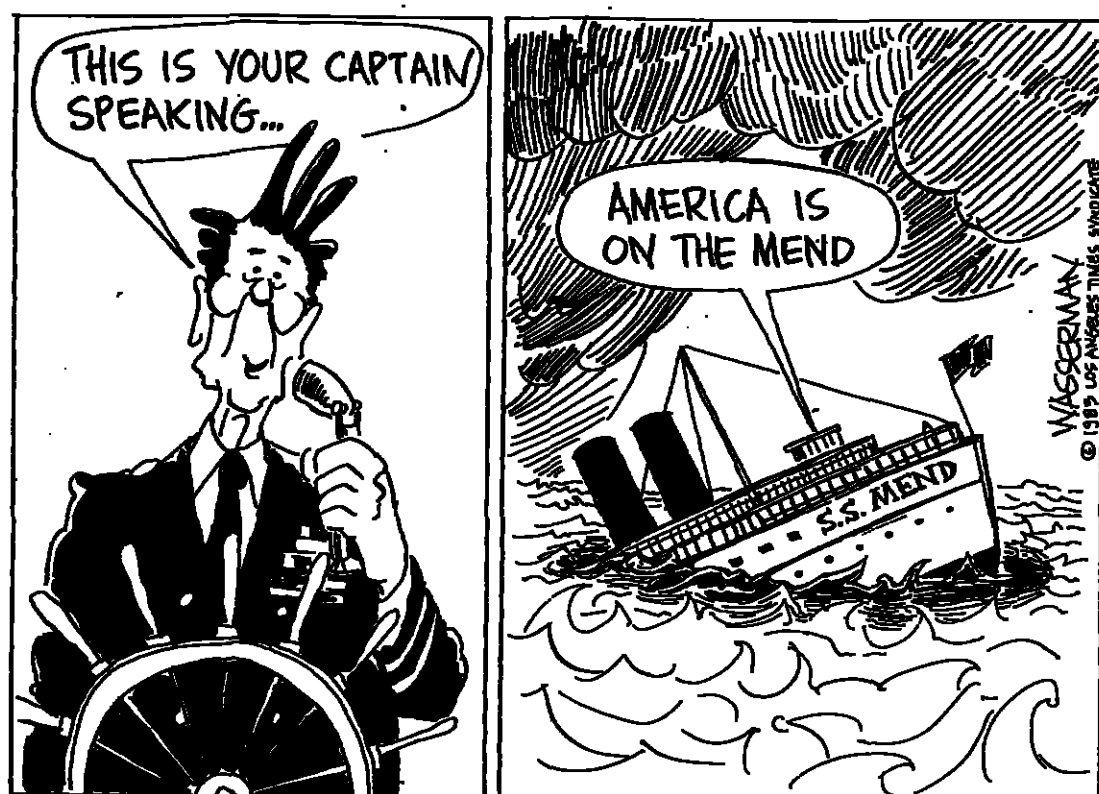
What, exactly, should Israel choose? And what are the implications of Israel's choice for the United States and for the rest of the world?

Ambiguity

If there is a bomb "in the basement," an undisclosed force of nuclear weapons or components that could be assembled rapidly into such weapons, should it remain there? Or would Israel and the world be better served by moving from a policy of "deliberate ambiguity" to an explicit declaration of nuclear capability? If, unlikely as it may be, Israel has never actually moved to exercise a nuclear weapons option, should it now exercise that option? And if it does, should the necessary steps be taken under the mantle of obscurity, or should they be accompanied by public disclosure?

These are important questions. To answer them, Israel will have to pay particular attention to US-Soviet relations and the Gulf war. If, for example, the US continues to exempt Pakistan from a law barring US assistance to nations that work to produce nuclear weapons — because of Pakistan's role as a rebel base against Soviet forces in Afghanistan — Israel may see regional proliferation as a fait accompli. And Israel may reach similar conclusions if it continues to observe Iran and Iraq as moving toward a nuclear weapons capability.

It follows that Israel can best be expected to move with restraint in its nuclear options if Washington and Moscow proceed with far-reaching patterns of strategic arms reduction, and if the superpowers can agree upon a plan to end the war between Tehran and Baghdad. The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



US negotiations with Noriega

Ousted president an obstacle

By Bernd Debusmann

PANAMA CITY, (Reuters): The future of ousted President Eric Arturo Delvalle has emerged as a stumbling block in negotiations for the departure of Panamanian strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega, according to political and diplomatic sources.

Noriega, the 50-year-old general at the centre of Panama's deep economic and political crisis, rejected on Friday a US plan that provided for him to go into exile in return for a pledge that Washington would not seek his extradition on drug-running charges.

Return

The sources, who declined to be identified, said the US plan provided for the formal return to office of Delvalle, who was dismissed in February after a futile attempt to oust Noriega.

Delvalle, a staunch backer of the controversial general for most of his three years in office, went into hiding and is still recognised by Washington as Panama's rightful president.

In the official US version, the

Reagan administration began a campaign of economic warfare against Panama in response to a Delvalle request.

According to the sources, Delvalle's return would be acceptable neither to the 16,000-strong defence forces which Noriega heads, nor to the Revolutionary Democratic Party (PRD) which holds a majority in Panama's congress.

It was not clear whether the fate of the fugitive president was explicitly discussed in talks here last week between Noriega and two emissaries from the US State Department, William Walker and Michael Kozak.

One official close to the PRD said Noriega had insisted that Delvalle's successor, former Education Minister Manuel Solis Palma, must stay in office until elections scheduled for next year.

Solis Palma was appointed to the presidency in much the same way as Delvalle, who took office after his predecessor, Nicolas Ardito Barletta, was forced out by the military.

In his time in office, Delvalle

won the contempt of the opposition by his spirited defence of Noriega against charges of corruption and drug trafficking, as well as by several attempts to ban anti-Noriega street protests.

Deserted

Three days after his about-face even Delvalle's own small party deserted him, leaving him without any internal political base.

How Delvalle, wealthy sugar plantation owner, is now viewed by the military and much of the ruling PRD was thrown into focus in an editorial on Sunday in the government newspaper Republica.

"If the political situation in Panama were to change ... no Panamanian of honour would again accept Delvalle as president of the republic," it said.

"Apart from the power of his money, he has no merit of his own. Republica recalled that Delvalle made his futile attempt to oust Noriega a few days after talks in Miami with Elliot Abrams, US assistant Secretary of State for inter-American affairs.

By Gary Regenstreif

TORONTO, (Reuters): Acquaintances who jokingly greet Stephen Mengesha as "Your Highness" provide a bitter reminder to the Toronto car salesman that across the ocean, other descendants of Haile Selassie languish in Ethiopian jails.

Mengesha, a great-grandson of the deposed Ethiopian emperor, came to Canada as a student more than 20 years ago. For several years, he has been trying through various agencies and the Canadian government to win freedom for his mother and nine other members of an ageing royal family.

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney joined governments appealing for their release in a recent letter to the government of Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam who seized power from Selassie in 1974 and jailed his family.

"We're asking for forgiveness from the Ethiopian government," said Mengesha. "They haven't committed any crimes. I don't see how old people can become security risks."

"They just want to see their children before they die."

Pressure

Relatives of the family in countries including West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and the United States have privately lobbied their governments to exert pressure on the Marxist government in Addis Ababa, he said.

Amnesty International, the London-based human rights organisation, has declared the jailed members of Selassie's family prisoners of conscience and joined in the pleas for their freedom.

Western ministers who visit Ethiopia have raised the subject

Swarms of locusts

ALGIERS, March 22 (AP): Algeria has stepped up its battle against swarms of locusts which have invaded parts of north Africa, including all of southern Algeria, and are now moving "in a tidal wave" toward the north, authorities said today.

Using dozens of planes provided by France, Spain, Tunisia, Libya and the Soviet Union, specialists have sprayed at least 200,000 hectares of land.

Morocco and Mauritania are also battling the swarms, which specialists here say originated near the Red Sea.

Selassie's relatives
seek freedom

of the royal detainees. British Foreign Office Minister Lynda Chalker did so last April.

An official in Canada's Department of External Affairs confirmed the government has pressed for their release but refused to say what, if any, response had been received.

There was speculation last September that Mengistu would release them to coincide with the promulgation of a new civilian constitution. A recent amnesty does not cover former landowners and members of the ruling class in the previous government.

Refused

The Ethiopian government refused to comment on the royal detainees, but human rights organisations confirm that they number 10, including four granddaughters of Selassie, three grandsons and his daughter, Princess Tenagnework, 77. Mengesha's mother, Princess Aida, is 60.

Selassie died at the age of 83 in 1975 while under house arrest.

Mengesha said the release of his relatives would be a gesture of thanks for humanitarian aid from the West. Canadian aid to Ethiopia for the year ending March 31 is about 39.5 million dollars (\$31.6 million) and is expected to increase as the country faces the prospect of drought as devastating as the famine there two years ago.

Mengesha, 36, who lives in Toronto with his wife and baby son, said the royal family had no interest in regaining power and if released would probably leave Ethiopia to stay with relatives abroad, who also had no desire to restore the monarchy.

"This people have not held political power. They cannot be considered power-mongers. They have been punished enough if there was any punishment (deserved) because of their blood."

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1534 — Pope Clement VII declares valid the marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Catherine of Aragon.
- 1568 — Treaty of Longjumeau ends second war of religion in France.
- 1775 — US statesman Patrick Henry makes plea for American freedom from Britain, declaring "Give me liberty or give me death."
- 1801 — Russia's Tsar Paul I is assassinated, succeeded by Alexander I.
- 1848 — First organised band of settlers lands at Dunedin, New Zealand.
- 1918 — Lithuania proclaims its independence.
- 1919 — Benito Mussolini founds new political movement in Italy.
- 1933 — German Reichstag grants Adolf Hitler dictatorial powers until April 1937.
- 1935 — Soviet Union sells her interest in Chinese Eastern Railway to Japan.
- 1936 — Italy, Soviet Union and Hungary sign defence treaty.
- 1942 — Programme of moving Japanese-Americans from their homes on US West Coast to inland camps during World War II is begun.
- 1945 — US and British forces cross Rhine River in Germany during World War II.
- 1962 — French government uses fighter planes and tanks in attempt to end insurrection by European rightists in Algeria.
- 1977 — Congo government announces that Cardinal Emile Biayenda, Roman Catholic archbishop, has been assassinated.
- 1986 — Tens of thousands of Pakistanis swarm through Rawalpindi, shouting anti-government and anti-US slogans.
- 1987 — Iraq escalates air offensive against Iran's economic lifeline, bombing three offshore oilfields, an oil terminal and a tanker.

US faces major challenges in the decade ahead



President Reagan

rebuilt military, overhaul of the tax system, and a curb on government growth.

But, says Dr Sawhill, President Reagan also leaves "enormous problems": a mountain of debt that will curb future standards of living; an increase in inequality; a poverty rate higher than in the 1970s; an erosion of confidence in government because of the Iran-Contra affair and a lack of significant compromise on the budget; and increased divisiveness between the executive and Congress.

The new Urban Institute volume, titled "Challenge to Leadership: Economic and Social Issues for the Next Decade," is part of an eight-year project called Changing Domestic Priorities, which has focused largely on assessing the policies and programmes of the Reagan administration. The study looks ahead and includes analyses by a number of experts on subjects ranging from economic growth and international trade to health care and poverty.

Sawhill, the editor of the study, observes an erosion of national self-confidence in the economic arena as US living standards have begun to grow less rapidly than in the past and more slowly than in other countries.

But, she writes in an introductory chapter, the goal of maintaining that standard is not inconsistent with welcoming faster growth in low-income countries.

tries. "In fact, the faster the growth of less-affluent countries, the better our export markets will be, the more rapidly current income disparities among rich and poor nations will disappear, and the more political stability will be enhanced."

Displace

Sawhill also disputes fears that Japan will displace the US as the major economic power, given the huge US population and the tendency of growth rates to converge over time. But, she notes, other countries are catching up, and if the US share of world production continues to drop sharply, "it could profoundly alter not only relative standards of living but also the balance of military power and influence around the world."

Hence, a major task for the next administration will be to reassess US military commitments around the world in light of reduced economic resources and, perhaps reach agreement with the Soviets to cut back conventional forces. "There is little point in winning the arms race if one loses the economic marathon," she says.

Economist Charles F. Stone also challenges concerns that other nations will surge ahead of the US or that the US is being "deindustrialised." Stressing the importance of a free-trade system to boosting living standards, he argues that the US should avoid trade protectionism and develop policies that help US workers displaced by foreign competition.

Takes

In a chapter on family incomes, Joseph J. Minarik says US living standards are not improving as fast in the past. He also finds there with low-income families experiencing virtually no real income growth since the late '60s and the richest 5 per cent of all families experiencing an increase of more than 31 per cent. (These findings are supported in a new study by the Congressional Budget Office, which also concludes that there has been a "widening of the gap between high — and low-income families" since 1970.)

Turning to health care and

retirement, analyst John L. Palmer sees a growing share of the national income going toward programmes for the elderly, which will require higher taxes on the working-age population. One option, he suggests, is to modify medicare and social security so that the elderly, many of whom are financially better off today, shoulder more of the burden of financing their retirement and health care.

Persisting poverty in the US (13.6 per cent in 1986) also receives attention.

Noting that an "underclass" is emerging in the nation's cities, Sawhill observes that, if this group is permitted to grow, "it could impose large costs on society, threaten our sense of social cohesion, and exacerbate racial tensions." The need, she says, is to address the root causes: weak families, joblessness, and poor education.

In the decade ahead AIDS and the "right to die" are two issues likely to be debated in the context of individual freedom vs. the public interest. Abortion, school prayer, drug abuse, pornography, homosexuality, surrogate motherhood, and smoking in public places are also expected to generate conflict between social policy and moral and religious principles.

Examining the AIDS problem, for example, Thomas Schelling points to the controversy over whether to make clean needles available to

intravenous drug users, whether to test prostitutes, and whether to encourage safer sex among young people.

The Urban Institute study also points to the "constraints" on leadership that will complicate solutions of the problems it raises. Combating the next recession (seen to be "inevitable"), for example, will be difficult because of the huge deficits and the automatic operation of financial safety nets.

Recession

The burden of dealing with the recession will fall to the Federal Reserve, Sawhill says, yet the Fed will be torn between keeping interest rates low enough to fight recession and high enough to prevent a further decline in the value of the dollar and higher inflation if imports become more expensive.

The budget deficits, moreover, will inhibit new spending programmes or tax subsidies. In the face of growing demands for government action in various areas, she says, a new national consensus will have to be forged if taxes are to be raised or social security cut.

There will also be political constraints, she study suggests. A new president, if he does not have a strong popular mandate (as did Reagan in 1980), may not have enough political capital to govern effectively.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

India invited to set up joint venture projects in Bahrain

NEW DELHI, March 22, (Kuna): Bahrain's Commerce and Agriculture Minister Habib Ahmed Kassim arrived here yesterday to hold talks with Indian counterparts on promotion of relations in agriculture and other fields.

Ahmed Kassim, who is heading a five-member official delegation, is carrying certain proposals to cooperate with India in fertiliser and fisheries areas. His visit has materialised as a follow-up action of the visit of Minister of Development of Industry Yousuf Ahmed Al Shirawi who held extensive talks with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Finance Minister N.D. Tiwari and other officials on wide ranging issues including economic and trade ties.

Talks Al Shirawi also held talks with Indian businessmen inviting them to set up joint ventures with Bahraini counterparts in the aluminium, steel, and small scale industries sector.

Ahmed Kassim is meeting Indian Agriculture Minister Bhajan Lal and high official of the ministry late tonight and will visit various places in India. He will visit Fisheries Research Institute in Bombay. He is also visiting other agriculture institute in the country.

Of late there had been several visits by Indian businessmen and industrialists to Bahrain to explore possibilities of strengthening economic and industrial cooperation. The two sides have identified several areas for expanding the cooperation in tourism, communications and fertiliser areas.

Arig declares \$10.5 million dividends

A NET income of \$15.1 million was announced by Arab Insurance Group (Arig) at the board meeting held in Bahrain on March 22. The decision allowed the directors to recommend dividends of \$10.5 million, the same as in 1986.

Most significant in the company's financial results was that, for the first time, Arig made a profit from its reinsurance operations of \$6.9 million compared to a loss of \$3.8 million in the previous year.

Moreover, the earned premium income in 1987, of \$157.0 million, was an impressive increase of 31 per cent over the 1986 figure of \$119.7 million.

Net income in 1986 was \$22.5 million and the lower figure in 1987 was the direct result of the sharp decline in the stock markets towards the end of last year which significantly reduced the company's investment income.

Insurance market conditions, which had already worsened in 1987, are expected to remain weak throughout 1988. In spite of this, Arig confidently expects to sustain a modest rate of growth in premium income in 1988 and looks forward to a year of record profitability.

Japanese economy will grow 5pc this year

US stock market enjoys technical bounce

BOTH North American markets registered a significant advance, in February. In the US, the Standard and Poors Composite index rose 4.2 per cent while in Canada the Toronto Composite index rose 4.8 per cent. In the US market, sector rotation has been very rapid in recent weeks. After a very poor January, engineering stocks have registered substantial gains last month. Similarly the very oversold stores sector enjoyed a significant bounce.

As yet, Scimitar sides with mainstream opinion that the US stock market is enjoying a technical bounce within a bear market environment.

Many investors are expecting a recession next year although, in the short term, the most obvious threat to the rally lies in the likelihood of renewed dollar weakness. Despite the expected improvement in its trade balance, the US will nevertheless need to import capital on a very substantial scale.

In this environment, it may be harder to defend the dollar with the long bond yielding below 8-1/2 per cent than when it was around 10 per cent.

And yet, it is possible to paint a brighter picture. In his Congressional Testimony FRB Chairman Greenspan presented forecasts showing economic growth at between 2 per cent and 2-1/2 per cent this year. He stated

Indonesian energy minister faces strong pressure

Lukman's press conference postponed

LAGOS, March 22, (Reuters): A news conference by Opec president Riwana Lukman which he was to have held today has been postponed indefinitely, an official of Nigeria's state oil company said.

The international oil market had eagerly awaited the news conference, and prices had been rising ahead of it, because of speculation that he might announce Opec measures to deal with an oversupply of oil and with price discounting by some organisations.

The press conference has been rescheduled. There is no date yet and no time, an official in the public affairs department of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) told Reuters by telephone.

NNPC Public Affairs Manager Alex Nwokedi was not immediately available to give details.

Traders

London oil traders reported that the price of Brent blend crude oil from the North Sea, a barometre of world pricing, began slipping on reports that Lukman would not, after all, be meeting reporters today.

Brent for May loading was quoted around \$14.85 a barrel, after trading above \$15 earlier today.

Expectations had been high that Lukman would announce measures to halt sliding oil prices when he addressed the news at 1400 GMT although he himself gave no such indication.

His only public comment recently on the oil market was a remark one week ago that the Opec (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) would not be stamped into panic measures.

Ecuadorian Oil Minister Santos Alvarito told journalists in Quito on Sunday that Lukman



Outgoing Indonesian Energy Minister Subroto (right), a leading voice for moderation within Opec, warmly shakes hands with his successor Ginandjar Kartasasmita in his office yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

would announce measures to shore prices but did not say precisely what the action would be.

Oil traders speculated that he might favour a meeting of Opec's five-member price monitoring committee.

Biggest

But Nigerian officials say Lukman agrees with Saudi Arabia, Opec's biggest producer, that a meeting is not necessary.

In Bahrain, Gulf oil traders said they were puzzled to see US and Far East oil markets inter-

preting overnight remarks by King Fahd as an admission that Saudi Arabia is discounting official Opec prices.

The official Saudi Press Agency on Monday evening quoted King Fahd as saying: "The main aspect in balancing supply and demand is that all (Opec) members abide by their set output and pricing."

"But if one of the members breaks this obligation, the result reflects on the market and that is what we are seeing now. It is

difficult to ask those abiding (by Opec accords) to amend the situation at the cost of their output."

Oil prices came under pressure in the United States on Monday, as traders took the King's words to confirm market reports that Saudi Arabia was discounting prices. The same reaction came in Far East oil markets today.

Meanwhile, Indonesia's new Mines and Energy Minister Ginandjar Kartasasmita will face strong pressures to match price discounts being offered by other Opec producers, particularly by Japan, oil-industry sources said today.

Priority

Ginandjar, a 46-year-old Tokyo-educated martial-arts enthusiast who was formerly head of Indonesia's Investment Board, was appointed energy minister in a cabinet announced by President Suharto yesterday.

Industry sources said his immediate priority will be to review Indonesia's pricing policy, especially for Japan, its main customer, in line with discounts being offered by some other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in a glutted market that has sent prices tumbling.

Outgoing Energy Minister Subroto said last week Indonesia was resisting pressures to offer discounts to Japanese customers, but industry sources said some affiliates of the state oil company Pertamina had already offered Asian buyers one brand of crude below official prices.

Steps

Subroto warned that Indonesia, Asia's largest crude-oil exporter, with daily production of 1.19 million barrels, would not feel bound by the December Opec pricing and production agreement if other members con-

tinued to violate it.

He said Indonesia would "take its own steps," a hint that Jakarta might be pressed into the discount game.

Commenting on the cabinet changes, the Jakarta Post in an editorial said it would watch with interest whether Ginandjar would be more assertive in defending Indonesia's interests in Opec meetings.

"Or, perhaps, when the need arises for the sake of Indonesia's interests, whether he will feel less inhibited in interpreting Opec decisions on pricing and production quotas in a more liberal manner," it said.

Ginandjar will take over Subroto's position in Opec's five-man pricing panel, which is closely watching markets and considering action to shore up falling prices.

Since the December Opec agreement, which fixed a reference price of \$18 a barrel, Indonesia has favoured production cuts rather than price discounts to counter falling prices.

Tough

Ginandjar is seen within the industry as a tough negotiator, but realistic enough to appreciate the problems of the industry, hit by rapid fluctuations in crude prices.

In his last job he presided over a set of changes in investment rules that reversed a decline in foreign investment outside the oil sector.

As energy minister he will control the extension of production-block contracts coming up for renewal.

Indonesia has begun negotiating incentives with foreign oil companies to boost sluggish exploration amid concern that new discoveries are not matching present extraction rates, Indonesian energy officials said.

Indian envoy

INDIA'S Ambassador to Kuwait, N. N. Jha, met the Governor of Kuwait's Central Bank, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah, on Monday.

They discussed ways to strengthen relations in the banking sector.

World Business Summary

Hong Kong exported more electronics last year

HONG KONG, March 22, (Xinhua): Hong Kong's domestic exports of electronics amounted to 42 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$5.38 billion) in 1987, 26 per cent more than in the previous year, according to the latest statistics issued by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC).

Finished products accounted for 27.5 billion Hong Kong dollars while parts and components contributed 14.5 billion Hong Kong dollars.

Electronic watches accounted for the bulk of finished products, at 8.8 billion Hong Kong dollars, representing a 22 per cent increase over that in 1986. Computers — comprising mainly digital processing units as well as peripheral, control and adopting units, showed a 46 per cent rise to 1.9 billion Hong Kong dollars and exports of television receivers jumped 56 per cent to 1.6 billion Hong Kong dollars.

The United States remained Hong Kong's biggest market for electronic goods last year, though the imports of 16 billion Hong Kong dollars indicated the share shrinking from 44 per cent to 38.2 per cent of Hong Kong's electronic exports.

Hong Kong had made significant inroads into European markets last year. In the United Kingdom, domestic exports of electronics rose 45 per cent to 2.2 billion Hong Kong dollars while exports to France surged 94 per cent to 1.4 billion Hong Kong dollars.

In view of the current protectionist sentiments directed towards Hong Kong's largest export items — textiles and garments — in developed countries, analysts believed the electronics industry should provide the catalyst for future export growth.

Canada to accept GATT trade rulings on liquor, fishing

OTTAWA, March 22, (Reuters): Canada announced yesterday that it would accept the recommendations of two international reports that have called for an end to discriminatory trade practices in its liquor and fishing industries. A full council meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is scheduled to vote in Geneva later today on the previously-released reports that found Canada was restricting foreign competition in the two sectors. Canada could prevent GATT's acceptance of the reports because the vote must be unanimous, but Trade Minister Pat Carney said that would expose his country to retaliation.

"Without these rules Canadian industry and Canadian workers would be exposed to indiscriminate action by trading partners and the law of the jungle would prevail," Carney told the House of Commons yesterday.

A GATT panel report last year upheld a longstanding complaint by the European Economic Community that provincial liquor distribution systems discriminated against imported products. Carney said Ottawa would accept the reports' finding in wine and liquor and begin talks with provincial governments on ways to end mark-ups of foreign alcoholic beverages. But in the beer sector, Carney said the system would not be changed because European beer accounts for only a small part of the Canadian market, unlike European wines.

The Canadian beer industry has argued that up to 19,000 jobs would be lost if foreign brewers were granted greater access. Such a move, they said, would lead to a flood of cheaper beer imports from the United States.

Ottawa meanwhile plans to review a domestic industry complaint that European wine producers are heavily subsidised. The minister also said the government would accept a report that Canada was in violation of a GATT complaint against a policy that required Canada's fish to be landed in the West Coast of Canada for processing.

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LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	720/0
ADBEY LFE	257/0	JAGUAR	293/0
ADT LTD	111.0	LADROCK	415.0
ALD LYONS	373/0	LAND SECS	541.0
AMSTRAD	166/0	LAPORTE	374/0
ARGYLL GP	205.0	LASMO	328/0
ASDA GP	179/0	LEGAL+GEN	277.0
BAA PP	122.0	LONRHO	258/0
BAT INDS	453/0	LUCAS IND	625/0
BARCLAYS	483/0	MAGNET	245/0
BASS		MARKS+SP	179/0
BEAZER	179.0	MAXWELL C	268.0
BEECHAMS	470/0	METAL BOX	198.0
BET ORD	249/0	MEPC	529/0
BICC PLC	327.0	MIDLAND BK	413.0
BLUE ARRN	122/0	NEXT	287/0
BLUE CIRC	458/0	NTF FOODS	265.0
BUC GP	385.0	P & O DFD	603/0
BOOTS CO	228/0	PEARL	448/0
BPP INDS	287/0	PIKINGTON	220/0
BR COM	303/0	PLUESSEY	161.0
BR AIRWAY	76.00	PRUDENTIAL	862.0
BR AEROSP	377/0	RACAL	222/0
BR GAS PP	139.0	RANK HVS	325/0
B.P.	273/0	RANK ORG	706.0
B.P.NEW	78/0	RANKIT+CO	816/0
BR TELCOM	257/0	REDLAND	442.0
BRITOL	519/0	REED	419/0
BUNZL	169/0	RYL BK SC	363.0
BURNAH OL	513.0	RMC GRP	468/0
BURTON	254/0	REUTERS	537/0
CABLEWIR	362/0	RTZ CORP.	380.0
CADBURYS	247.0	ROLLS ROY	128.0
COATS VYI	239/0	ROTHMAN B	433/0
COMN UNI	345/0	ROVATREE	472/0
CONS GOLD	925.0	ROYAL INS	407/0
COOKSON'S	578.0	SATCHEL	443/0
COURTAUD	325.0	SAINSBURY	240/0
DALGETY	288/0	SCOT+NEW	278.0
DEE CP	179/0	SEARS	140/0
DIXONS	185/0	SEDEWICK	210/0
ENG CHINA	403/0	SEWELL	058/0
ENTER OIL	358/0	SMITH+NEPH	138/0
FINANCIAL	86/0	SMITHS A	303/0
FISONS	905/0	STC	246.0
GEN ACCID	95/0	STOREHOUSE	38.76
GEN ELEC	154.0	SUN ALLIA	920/0
GLAXO	505.0	TARNAC	259/0
GRAMADA	340/0	TATE+LYLE	830.0
GLOBE	141.0	TESCO	162.0
GRAND MET	495.0	THORN EMI	616/0
GUS A	122/0	TRAF HSE	337.0
GUYARD RYL	918/0	TSS	110/0
GKN	324/0	T + N	188.0
GUINNESS	313.0	TRUSTHOUSE	246/0
HAWES	600/0	ULTRAMAR	265/0
HANSON	136/0	UNILEVER	487/0
HUKER SID	490/0	UNIGATE	243/0
HILLSDOWN	283.0	UNIT BISC	255/0
ICI	046/0	UNIT NWSR	452/0
IMI	204.0	WELLCOM	462/0
		WHITBRO IN	315/0
		WILLIAMS	305/0
		WILLIS FB	208.0
		WINPEY GE	262/0
		WOOLWORTH	296/0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
A.B. ELECT	385/0	385/0
API PLC	130/0	129/0
ARI NEW	278/0	278/0
AARONSON	138/0	138/0
AAH HLD	272/0	273/0
ADDISON	100/0	99/0
ADJUST	311/0	311/0
ALEX WRKV	179/0	177/0
ALD IR B	218/0	220/0
ALLIANCE	799/0	798/0
ALL COLL	143/0	142/0
ALLD PLNT	52/4	52/0
AMARI	175/0	175/0
AMEC	375/0	375/0
AMER TRST	119/0	120/0
AMERSHAM	496/0	496/0
ANGLIA TV	407/0	405/0
ANSBACHER	65/0	65/0
U-APP HOL	310/0	312/0
APLEYARD	396/0	397/0
APRIOT	110/0	111/0
ARAN ENER	78/4	79/0
ARLINGTON	202/0	203/0
ARMSTRONG	152/0	151/0
ANGLO O'S	207/0	208/0
AQUAS.A.	74/0	75/0
ASHLEY LA	118/0	118/0
ATTWOODS	300/0	300/0
AUTO SEC	257/0	258/0
AVIS EUR	337/0	338/0
AVON RUBB	641/0	642/0
BSG INTL	62/0	62/0
BAILL JAP	480/0	480/0
BANKER IT	69/4	69/0
BK OF SCO	560/0	562/0
BARKER DO	146/0	146/0
BARRY DEV	207/0	206/0
B.MEHILL	174/0	173/0
BEJAM GP	182/0	182/0
BELHAW	43/0	44/0
BELWAY	253/0	253/0
BENROSE	213/0	213/0
BENLOX HD	64/0	63/0
BENNETT +F	35/0	36/0
BENNETT	199/0	200/0
BERTS	308/0	309/0
BERKELEY	384/0	385/0
BRIKLEY	129/0	128/0

HAMBROS I

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
BR DREGI	129/0	128/0
BR LAND	300/4	301/0
BR VITA	432/0	433/0
BRIXTON E	285/0	284/0
U-BRD ST	45/0	45/0
BRUNNER	109/0	109/0
BULMER HP	172/0	170/0
BURGESS	238/0	238/0
CRH	118/0	118/0
U-CPU COM	86/0	87/0
CALEDONIA	346/0	347/0
CALOR GRP	572/0	570/0
CAMB INST	40/0	40/0
CANNING W	200/0	200/0
CANAL ST	228/0	228/0
CAP GRP	200/0	199/0
CAP RADIO	190/0	190/0
CARDON	319/0	320/0
CARLESS C	163/0	163/0
CARTER C	765/0	760/0
CAYLOR ALL	345/0	345/0
CENTL ITV	531/0	533/0
CHARTERDA	26/0	26/0
CHLORINE	53/4	53/0
CHRISTIES	566/0	565/0
CHAS CHUR	132/0	131/0
U-CIFER	13/0	13/0
U-CLUFF	97/0	97/0
CLOYE PET	122/0	122/0
COALITE	312/0	312/0
COATES BR	328/0	325/0
CASE GRP	81/0	80/0
COLLINS W	603/0	603/0
COWLING A	512/0	513/0
CNTL SEC	38/0	38/0
COLORADO	207/0	206/0
COURTS FR	258/0	258/0
COURT A	181/0	182/0
CI GROUP	44/0	44/0
COSTAIN	329/0	328/0
COVIE (T)	108/0	108/0
CROST NIG	217/0	218/0
CREDA INC	204/0	204/0
CROWTHER	185/0	185/0
CRYSTALAT	160/0	160/0
DARES EST	34/4	34/0
DAWSON J	210/0	210/0
DE LA RUE	410/0	410/0
DELTA GRP	292/4	294/0
U-DEWEY W	126/0	125/0
DRG	383/0	383/0
DIPLOMA	217/0	217/0
DRAYTON C	437/0	436/0
DRAYTON J	923/0	925/0
DUNHILL	178/0	178/0
EAGLE TST	20/0	19/6
EAGLE RPT	19/6	19/4
EDIN I.T.	153/0	153/0
U-ELDRGE	355/0	355/0
ELECTRA	208/0	208/0
ELECTROCOM	199/0	200/0
ELEC RENT	98/0	99/0
ELLIS EVA	184/0	185/0
ELLIS GOL	62/0	62/0
ENAP	203/0	202/0
EMPIRE ST	226/0	225/0
ETAN	281/0	282/0
EUTROTHERM	356/0	355/0
EUTROT R	331/0	331/0
EURO W RG	25/4	25/0
EVERED HL	121/0	121/0
EVODE GRP	165/0	166/0
U-EXPLAUR	38/0	38/0
FKI BASCK	136/0	136/0
F & C PAC	128/0	128/0
FARRELL E	183/0	183/0
FED+HSHN	299/0	300/0
FENNER JH	168/0	168/0
FERGUSON	294/0	293/0
U-FIELDS	124/0	123/0
FINE ARTS	225/0	224/0
FINLAN GP	79/0	78/0
FLMG AMR	116/4	117/0
FLMG CLAV	240/0	240/0
FLMG FEA	178/0	176/0
FLMG JAPH	205/0	203/0
FLMG MERC	167/4	169/0
FLMG OSEA	153/0	154/0
FLMG TECH	159/0	159/0
FLMG UNIV	140/0	140/0
FINLAY J	87/0	86/0
FST LEISR	149/0	148/0
FST NAT F	247/0	247/0
FST SCOT	394/0	396/0
FITCH CO	279/0	280/0
FUR & COV	107/0	107/0
FOSCO HI	233/0	233/0
U-FLOYD O	33/0	33/0
FR GROUP	288/0	289/0
FRESHBAKE	95/0	95/0
GEEST	126/0	126/0
GERBONAT	310/0	310/0
GETTNER	186/0	183/0
GLYNED	466/0	466/0
GVTT ATLA	126/0	125/0
GVTT ORTE	262/0	261/0
GVTT STRA	224/0	223/0
GPG	82/0	83/0
GRMP TV A	49/0	48/0
GRAMPH HD	269/0	268/0
GR.PTLD	309/0	309/0
GREENILL V	208/0	207/0
GREEN KNG	482/0	482/0
GREYCOAT	351/0	351/0
HTV GROUP	239/0	238/0
HALL (N)	132/0	132/0
HALMA	166/0	166/0

NEW YORK

75/0	NAME	OPEN-MID-DAY
525/0	A BSCH COM	31/7 31/5
345/0	ATLANTIC R	81/4 81/3
209/0	AAR CORP	24/4 24/5
469/0	AETNA LIFE	45/2 45/1
469/0	ALASKA AIR	17/0 16/7
165/0	ALCAN ALUM	29/0 28/7
65/0	ALCO STAND	25/6 25/4
200/0	AM CYNAMID	50/4 50/4
194/0	AM ELET PV	28/2 28/2
469/0	AM HOM PRO	81/5 81/4
72/0	AM HOM PRO	79/5 79/7
179/0	AM STANDARD	76/7 76/6
167/0	AM STORES	60/4 60/4
321/0	AM TEL-TLS	28/5 28/5
148/0	AMOCO CORP	75/5 75/5
166/0	AMP INC	51/0 51/0
266/0	AMPCO PITT	15/1 15/2
182/0	AMR CORP	43/2 43/3
150/0	AMR GEN CO	34/4 34/5
46/0	AMERADA NE	29/5 29/3
835/0	ANTHEM ELE	11/6 11/6
89/0	APACHE CP	7/7 7/7
187/0	APACHE PET	3/5 3/5
124/0	ARMCO INC	11/6 11/6
129/0	ASARCO INC	24/5 24/5
103/0	ASHLAND OIL	64/4 64/1
39/0	ATLS CORP	0 36/6
91/0	AVERY INT	22/6 22/4
9/0	AVNET INC	26/0 25/7
40/0	AVON PRODS	22/7 22/6
718/0	BELL ATLAN	70/2 70/2
103/0	BCE INC	30/7 30/7
21/0	BELL-HOW	61/7 61/6
57/0	BETH STEEL	22/6 22/6
331/0	BEVERLY	7/5 7/4
281/0	BNK BOSTON	24/2 24/4
713/0	BNK BOSTN-A	0 49/4
113/0	BNK NY-NYK	29/1 29/2
285/0	BNK TR-NY	34/0 34/0
383/0	BNK AMERICA	10/1 10/1
61 61/0	BNKAM SPEC	7/0 7/0
244/0	BOEING CO	48/7 48/6
405/0	BOISE CASC	46/6 48/1
312/0	BORDEN	54/5 54/6
110/0	BOWATER	35/0 35/2
6 16/0	BR TELECOM	46/6 46/6
190/0	BRIGGS-STYR	31/6 31/7
181/0	BRIST-MYER	44/4 44/1
96/0	BRUNSWICK	21/3 21/1
200/0	BURDOP CO	0 14/6
193/0	C 3 INC	14/0 14/0
160/0	CABOT CORP	37/5 36/6
11/4	CAESARS W	24/4 24/3
62/0	CAL FREIGHT	26/5 26/3
423/0	CAS NAT GS	16/0 16/0
25/0	CASST-COOKE	23/1 23/0
218/0	CATERPI TR	65/4 65/4
70/0	CB1 IND	28/0 27/7
218/0	CBS	164/0 163/3
316/0	CENTEL CP	48/6 48/4
142/0	CENRO DAT	2/3 2/3
326/0	CHAMP INTL	35/2 35/2

International Bond Highlights

Amsterdam — The European Investment Bank plans to issue a 5.75 pct 200 mln guilders Eurobond due 1994 at an issue price of 101.50 pct, lead manager Swiss bank Corporation Investment Banking NV said. (RTTZ 0823)

Zurich — NV Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken is issuing a 200 mln Swiss franc 12 year bond with a 4-5/8 pct coupon and 101-1/4 pricing, lead manager Union Bank of Switzerland said. (RTTC 0945)

London — Club Med Inc is issuing a 100 mln Canadian dollar Eurobond due May 4, 1992, paying 9-5/8 pct and priced at 101-5/8 pct, Banque Paribas Capital Markets Ltd said as lead manager. (RTTN 1014)

London — The City of Edmonton in Canada is issuing a 75 mln Canadian dollar Eurobond due May 3, 2008 paying 9-5/8 pct and priced at 100-1/4, lead manager Wood Gundy Inc said. (RTTM 1012)

Hong Kong — The Beijing Lingmahe Towers Co Ltd has signed for a 54.45 mln US dollar 10-year floating rate loan to finance construction of a hotel-apartment complex in Peking, arranger Sanwa International Finance Ltd said.

London — Galactic Holdings Inc, a unit of Galactic Resources, is issuing a 38 mln dollar exchangeable debenture due 1995, paying seven pct and priced at par, McLeod Young Wier International said as lead manager. (RTWN 1517)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 8-11/16 9/16	8-5/8 9/16	8-11/16 5/8
FFI 3.25/35	3.40/45	3.40/45
PAR 7-5/16 3/8	7-3/4 7/8	8-1/16 3/16
ZUR 1/8 3/8	1-3/8 1-5/8	1-5/8 1-7/8
BRX 4.10	6.00 1/8	6-1/8 1/4
ROM 10-3/8 10-7/8	11-1/2 12	11-3/8 11-7/8
AHS 3-7/8 4.0	4.0 4-1/16	4.0 4-1/8
TOK 3.500 5625	3.8750 9575	3.8750 9575
ECU 6.062 6.312	6.25 6.37	6.45 6.56

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	5	5 1/2
3 months	4 15/16	5 7/16
6 months	4 7/8	5 3/8
1 year	4 15/16	5 7/16

BOMBAY

PR.	CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	65.50	63	64	65	515	515	500
ACC	144	146	142	GRASIM	89	86	86.25	NOCL	422.50	415	415
ASIA PAINT	147.50	142.50	140	GSFC	102	99	96	OKAY	20	18.50	19
BAJAJ AUTO	422.50	410	407.50	HIND LEVER	67	67	65	PEICO	26.50	26	24
BAL. RAYON	180	175	172	HINDMOOT	122	118	124	PFIZER	68	64	65
BOM. IND	132	129.50	128	HINDCOCA	82.50	80	78.75	PKE-AUTO	26	25	24.50
BR. BOND	83	80.50	82	HINDMOT	18	17.50	16.75	RAYMOND	47	47	45
BEL. INDEX	420.41	417.18	418	IND ORG	15.50	15	15.50	RELIANCE	64	63	67
BENTURYS	785	775	762.50	INDORAY	51.50	51	50	SIEMENS	24	22.75	25
COLGATE	182.50	182.50	176.25	INDORL	157.50	160	152.50	SPIC	24	22.75	25
DEEPFERT	26.50	26.50	24	INDORL	35.50	34.50	35	STOWILLS	230	220	220
EL. HOTEL	42	42	43	JKSYNTH	84.50	83	82	TATACHEN	62.50	60	61
ESSKAYE	171.25	167.50	163.75	INDIA	53.50	53	52	TELCO	392.50	387.50	385
ESSAR	18	18	17	HATINDRA	9.12	9	9.12	TISCO	646.25	636.25	630
GE. POLY	75.50	74.50	74.50	MASTERSHR	97.50	95.50	95	VOLAS	242.50	242.50	245
GR. SHIP	24.35	23.75	23.85	MATHER PL							

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
AES	248.5	247.0
ALLIANZ VR	1415.0	1428.0
BADENMCK	176.1	179.0
BASF	250.0	251.7
BAYER	273.7	275.1
BAYER HYP	360.0	363.0
BAYER VER	352.5	357.0
BBC	315.2	318.0
BIF	365.0	355.5
BMJ	526.0	533.0
CHEMIE-VER	0	120.0
COMMERZB	236.0	237.5
CONTI GUM	252.5	255.5
DALMER BEN	688.5	691.5
DEUTSCH B	431.7	435.8
DEL	340.0	341.0
DRESNER B	255.0	257.0
F&Z INDEX	470.89	472.57
GLD SCHIND	247.5	247.5
GUTHEOFF	0	0
HAPENBER	400.0	411.0
HOECHST AG	264.7	263.6
HOECHST	116.9	116.5
HORTEN	192.0	194.0
HUSSEL HLD	467.5	473.0
KALI SALZ	144.0	144.5
KARSTADT	468.5	467.0
KAUFFHO	407.5	407.5
KLOCK H	106.0	108.5
KLOCK W	0	81.5
LMDE	583.0	592.0
LUFTHANSA	152.0	152.0
MANNESM	162.7	162.5
MANNESM	126.5	129.9
MERCEDES	576.0	574.0
METALLBERG	256.0	255.0
NIDORF PF	573.0	572.5
NORSK HYD	50.70	51.00
PHILIP KOD	629.5	626.5
POKSCHE	540.0	541.0
PREUSSAG	148.5	150.0
RAI	202.5	205.5
RHEIN	209.0	211.0
RHEIN P	201.2	201.2
RHEINMETAL	264.0	263.0
SALAMANDER	268.0	265.0
SCHERING	461.0	460.0
SEL	320.0	320.6
SIEMENS	396.0	398.6
THYSEN	131.0	131.5
VARTA	270.0	268.0
VEBA	261.6	263.0
VEW	163.3	163.5
VOLKSWAGEN	245.6	240.8

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
C H TUNNEL	14.90	14.70
CHUNG K	7.80	7.80
CHINA GAS	16.50	16.30
CHINA L-P	18.70	19.00
CHINA MOT	18.70	18.80
COSMO PROP	4.30	4.30
EVERGOLD	33	33
FAR EAST C	77	77
GEN ORIENT	0	44.00
H S DEVELOP	8.85	8.90
H S INDEX	594.80	602.80
HANG LUNG	4.80	4.80
HANG SENG	33.50	33.25
HAW PAR BR	0	21.00
HK ELEC CO	8.15	8.25
HK KOWLOON	7.00	7.00
HK LAND CO	7.40	7.50
HK SHAN BK	3.97	4.00
HK SHAN HT	7.45	7.45
HK TELE CO	8.80	8.85
HUTCH WHAM	9.10	9.10
IND ER PAC	12.30	12.40
KOWLOON N	11.50	11.40
NEW WORLD	9.30	9.30
PAUL Y CON	1.77	1.77
REALTY DEV	5.90	5.90
S H K CO	1.81	1.81
S H K PROP	9.95	9.95
SINE DARGY	1.53	1.53
STELLUS FBY	5.90	5.90
SVIRE PAC	18.00	18.30
T V B CO	14.00	13.90
TAT CHEUNG	3.47	3.55
UNITED BANK	1.63	1.59
WOCK MARD	0	7.25
WOCK MARI	0	1.15
WORLD INTL	3.37	3.25

AMMAN

ALADDIN COMPANY	OPNG	CLSG
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.		
ARAB BANK		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR		
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47	1.48
ARAB INSURANCE	0.94	0.94
ARAB INT. INV. TRAD.		
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.96	0.97
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53	0.58
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK		
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD		
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.		
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75
ARAB POTASH CO.		
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN		
BEELIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CATRO AMMAN BANK	30.00	30.00
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS		
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	1.49	1.47
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.		
FINANCE/CREDIT/COF		
GARAGE OWNERS COF	4.05	4.05
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.33	1.32
GENERAL MINING.	1.50	1.45
HIMMEL MINERALS	0.79	0.79
HOLY LAND INS.	1.15	1.20
IND. MATCH JEMCO	1.34	1.34
INDUSTRIAL DEVLPT BHK	1.40	1.40
INDUSTRIAL COMM/AGR.	1.40	1.40
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COMM/INV.	0.64	0.64
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.96	0.96
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH		
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.75	0.75
JERUSALEM INS.	1.32	1.30
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	13.60	13.60
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.05	1.05
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER		
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.16	1.16
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY		
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.50
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.		
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.77	0.77
JOR LHM BRICK		
JOR MANAC/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK		
JOR PAPER CARDBRQ		
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS		
JOR PIPES MANUFACT		
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00	2.05
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	3.00	3.65
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.		
JOR SECURIT. CORP	0.91	0.91
JOR SELPHO CHEM.		
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		
JOR WORSTED MLL	4.35	4.30
JOR. INVT. AGR	1.00	1.00
JOR. PETROLEUM REF		
JOR. FRENCH INS.		
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP		
JORDANIAN GULF REAL		
JORDAN DAIRY		
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.20	1.18
JORDAN INS.	0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.90
JORDAN ISLAMIC BHK	1.76	1.74
JORDAN KUMAIT BANK		
JORDAN TANNING		
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY		
MACH/EQU/RENT/MAIN	0.83	0.82
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.40
MIDDEL EAST INS	60.00	60.00
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.60
NAT. FIM. INVEST CO		
NAT/CABEL/WIRE/INF		
NATIONAL ARIA INS	1.26	1.27
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.50	0.50
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO		
NATIONAL STEEL		
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.25
PETRA BANK	2.02	2.00
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.50	0.50
PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.69	0.68
RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.80	0.80
REAL ESTATE INV.		
SHIPPING LINES	0.85	0.84
SPINNING WEAVING		
THE HOUSING BANK		
UNITED INSURANCE	2.50	2.50
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND		
UNIVERSAL INS.		
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.85	0.85
YARMOUK INSURANCE		

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	70.00	74.00
STOCK						
AC-A	9.00	9.10	8.90	LC-A	.46	.47
AMS	4.35	4.40	4.25	PC-A	.37	.38
FER-A	2.36	2.50		PK-A	.38	.39
GLO	32.50	33.00	32.00	OIL SECTOR		
PLDT	142.00	143.00	142.00	BP-A	.015	.016
SMC-A	129.00	130.00	128.00	LR-A	.0026	.003
SMC-B	154.00	150.00		LR-B	.0026	.003
MINING SECTOR				OPM-A	.036	.037
APX-A	.031	.032	.032	OPM-B	.037	.038
APX-B	.031	.032	.032	OV-A	.032	.033
AT-A	22.25	22.50	22.25	OV-B	.034	.035

Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
COMM.-IND.	499,685	9,898,955	758.13	6.45	DN
MINING	42,614,100	5,158,575	5,148.58	17.32	DN
OIL	87,150,000	1,643,100	5,522	0.085	DN
TOTAL	130,263,785	16,700,630	763.92	2.06	DN

PHILIPPINES MANILA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	70.50	72.00	70.50
STOCK							
SMC-A	128.00	129.00	128.00	LC-B	71.50	78.00	
SMC-B	152.00	153.00	151.00	LC-A	.46	.47	.47
SD-TIRE	27.00	27.50		LC-B	.47	.48	.48
PLDT	142.00	143.00	142.00	ZIP	.012	.013	.013
AMSCOR	4.35	4.40	4.20	OIL SECTOR			
AC-A	9.00	9.10	9.00	STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN
GLO	32.00	32.50	32.00	BP-A	.015	.016	.015
FER-A	2.30	2.48		BP-B	.015	.017	.016
FER-B	2.30	2.50		LR-A	.0026	.0028	.0026
MINING SECTOR				LR-B	.0026	.003	
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPM-A	.036	.037	.036
APX-A	.031	.032	.031	OPM-B	.037	.038	
APX-B	.031	.033		OV-A	.032	.033	.033
AT-A	22.00	22.25	22.25	OV-B	.033	.034	.034
AT-B	22.50	24.00		TA	.022	.023	.023

Manila Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SECTOR	SHARES	VALUES	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	267,060	5,871,570	744.42	UP 6.88	
MINING	87,044,300	7,554,180	4,447.50	DN 32.35	
OILS	86,150,000	1,649,810	5,848	DN 0.125	
TOTAL	173,461,360	14,895,560	739.96	DN 4.32	

SINGAPORE

NAME	LAST	PR CL	GUIN
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Call to set up unified Gulf stock market

ABU DHABI, March 22. (Kuna): The director general of Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry Saleh Rashid Al Dhaheri has called for the setting up of a unified Gulf stock market.

Dhaheri, in the latest issue of Chambers magazine, said the such a market would meet the aim of a joint strategy for economic development among the GCC states.

The market would be set up via the fiscal and economic cooperation committee so that the Gulf citizens could buy and sell regional stocks, he said.

"The establishment of such a market will strengthen the position of existing companies, mobilise savings, attract Gulf investment from abroad and encourage the establishment of new, large and strong corporations," Dhaheri said.

He said this will help achieve the economic objectives of the GCC states — the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman — and will achieve benefits for the Gulf national economy "from the wide and overall perspective."

Funds

Dhaheri said the stock market would attract funds from local investors and protect Gulf investments from stocks experienced in the international market.

"It is self-evident that the establishment of a Gulf stock market will achieve security for Gulf investments and bring them back to their natural localities," he said.

He said the idea of a Gulf stock market "derives considerable significance if viewed from the painful experience suffered by our alarmed investment abroad which are exposed to numerous risks."

Steel Authority of India to increase production

NEW DELHI, March 22. (Xinhua): The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has launched a Rs150 billion (US\$11.54 billion) updated plan which will enable it to achieve a production of 15 million tons of salable steel in the next 12 years.

Making the announcement on Sunday, SAIL chairman V. Krishnamurthy admitted that the investment envisaged was huge, but "SAIL is watching its steps to overcome the usual pitfalls."

SAIL is a wholly owned government undertaking, and responsible for the management of the integrated steel plants at Bhilai, Durgapur, Rourkela, Bokaro and Burnpur and also of alloy steel plants at Durgapur and Salem Steel Plant.

Pace

Krishnamurthy conceded that SAIL had not grown at the desired pace. He pointed out that from 6,004 million tons of salable steel in 1985-86, the production was estimated to go up to 6.7 million tons in the current financial year ending March 31.

He told reporters that the updating and expansion of Bhilai Steel Plant from 2.5 million tons per annum to 4 million tons is almost complete at a cost of about Rs22 billion. The last constituent unit would be commissioned in the next two weeks.

The updating and expansion of Bokaro at a cost of about Rs21 billion is already underway. After the completion of this programme, the capacity of the plant will increase to 4 million tons per annum. A techno-economic offer has been received from the Soviet Union recently.

The modernisation of the Durgapur Steel Plant had been finalised at an estimated cost of Rs13.57 billion. The updated plan for Rourkela would cost Rs16 billion.

It was reported that a Rs60 million sponge iron pilot plant has been set up for undertaking meaningful diagnostic research, at the Research and Development Centre of the SAIL.

Algerian minister for Kuwait

ALGERIAN Finance Minister Abdul Aziz Khalfi is expected to visit Kuwait on March 29, to meet with its Kuwaiti counterpart Jasssem Al Khorafi for talks over bilateral economic cooperation, well-informed sources said.

The sources, quoted by a local daily, added that the two ministers are scheduled to fly together to Jordan early next month to attend the Arab finance ministers' meeting due to be held in Amman on April 3 and 4 to discuss the performance of Arab League economic establishments.

Meanwhile, the daily said that joint Algerian-Kuwaiti committee is to start its meeting here shortly to follow up on economic cooperation between the two sides.

Asian stocks drift lower

Oil prices dip, gold eases

LONDON, March 22. (Reuters): Oil prices slipped today and gold prices dipped as well, as traders settled betting that Opec was not yet willing to act to cut a world petroleum glut.

Moves by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to reduce the surplus of oil could bring prices up, they believe. That could rekindle inflation.

But Opec president Rilwanu Lukman postponed a news conference, due for today, at which some traders had speculated he might announce new measures to end the glut.

Their first response to news of the postponement was to start selling oil. Then the price of gold, a traditional hedge against inflation, started slipping.

The price of Brent crude oil from the North Sea, a benchmark grade traded around the world, quickly shed more than 20 cents on that news, to sell at \$14.90 a barrel for May delivery. It had already been sliding from Monday's peak of \$15.35.

Gold, which jumped sharply on Monday on worries about inflation, shed more than a dollar an ounce, to trade around \$448 at midday, having been fixed in London this morning at \$449.25.

But the dollar was hardly changed at 1.69 West Germany marks and 127 yen in Europe this morning. It traded at \$1.83 to the British pound sterling.

"The market is confused. It's a

professional market and there will be range trading until the market sorts itself out and decides what is important," said a London currency dealer.

Investors, concerned that inflation might erode the value of their holdings, have been turning to precious metals recently as a hedge.

Dealers said uncertainty about Opec's intentions was also keeping investors in many markets cautious.

Prices

London share prices were mixed with an easier bias in late trading as the market continued this week's lacklustre trend.

Dealers said that in the absence of any catalyst, volume continued depressed and was not significantly aided by a series of major company results which were mostly towards the top end of expectations.

Prices moved in a narrow range all day and in the afternoon shadowed Wall Street, which after a mixed opening started to gain modestly before falling back once more. At 1530 GMT, the FTSE 100 index was 4.3 points lower at 1,836.8.

Dealers say hopes for another cut in UK base rates have faded and, since this was seen as the major expectation for encouraging the market higher, investors have again largely taken to the sidelines.

Uncertainty over the path of sterling continues to keep traders

nervous. The pound nudged up to the 3.10 marks level again but operators expect the currency to remain within a fairly narrow band ahead of Friday's UK balance of payments data for February.

These are expected to show a substantial improvement in the current account deficit, which stood at 905 mln stg in January.

A current account deficit of around 400 mln stg is the median forecast for February but dealers noted the spectrum of forecasts is very wide as January's data was said to have been affected by changes in documentation procedures.

One trader commented, "whatever the actual figure is, people are sure to say that nothing can be read into them because January was seen as an aberration."

Loss

Price changes were limited to single figures for the most part today, with the majority under 5p. Biggest faller, however, was Prudential, which showed a 20p loss to stand at 861 on disappointing 1987 figures.

The market had been expecting insurance group Prudential to show pre-tax profits of between 220 and 230 mln stg and the actual figure of 206 mln prompted a sharp markdown.

Asian stock markets drifted lower today largely as a result of Wall Street's sharp decline on Monday, brokers said.

A wavering dollar, combined with uncertainty following a long holiday weekend, also helped push down prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, they said.

The key Tokyo share index sagged 123.51 points, or 0.48 per cent, to 25,842.75.

The yen is being boosted by perceptions that the Japanese economy is growing strongly, and expectations that Japanese institutions will sell the dollar to hedge currency risks after their fiscal years end on March 31, dealers said.

Jitters

Dealers in Tokyo said that despite the currency market's jitters, Japanese institutional investors were unlikely to sell dollars actively, even after the end of the fiscal year.

"Unless sentiment for the dollar becomes extremely bearish, there is little chance that institutional investors, including life insurers, will rush to sell dollars," said Tomohiro Kawase, senior manager at Nippon Life Insurance Co.

The Paris bourse indicator opened 0.49 per cent lower, while Amsterdam's CBS All-Share index slipped 0.2 points to 85. West German and Swiss shares were little changed.

In Sydney, the All-Ordinaries index fell 12.9 points to 1,419.7 as investors cashed in gains after three days of strong rises. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index slipped eight points to 2,594.80.

US orders for durable goods fall 1.8pc

WASHINGTON, March 22. (Reuters): New US orders for durable goods fell 1.8 per cent in February after dropping by the same amount in January, the government said today.

Economists had expected overall orders for durable goods, which are expensive items such as aircraft and refrigerators designed to last more than three years, to be up about 0.6 per cent in February.

Survey

The 1.8 per cent decline, to a seasonally adjusted level of \$111.4 billion, was the steepest since a 2.3 per cent fall in August 1987. It was the first time since spring 1986 orders had fallen in two consecutive months, the commerce Department said.

The government's statistics on durable goods orders are based on a relatively small survey and so are subject to sometimes sizeable revisions as more figures are collected.

For instance, the 1.8 per cent fall in January was originally reported at 2.8 per cent.

Expansion

The drop last month in part reflected weakness in machinery orders, which fell 8.0 per cent to \$37.9 billion after a sharp rise in January, the government said.

The steep overall decline surprised economists because other economic statistics last month pointed to a resilient economy. Companies hired more than half a million workers, industrial production rose 0.3 per cent and

housing starts jumped 8.9 per cent.

The Federal Reserve said on Friday recent surveys of US business conditions confirmed a continued moderate economic expansion.

That report reinforced fears voiced by Fed chairman Alan Greenspan that production bottlenecks were emerging in some industries that could cause a flare-up of inflation.

Republican presidential challengers, especially Vice President George Bush, the frontrunner, are hoping the economic strength persists through November's election without rekindling price pressures that may force the US Central Bank to raise interest rates and choke off growth.

Excluding defence equipment, where order flows are erratic because of the unpredictable timing of Pentagon procurement, orders dropped 1.3 per cent last month to \$103.58 billion after a 1.5 per cent drop in January.

Volatility

Orders for transport equipment, another volatile sector that includes aircraft and cars, rose 3.5 per cent in February to \$29.34 billion after a steep 9.0 per cent fall in January.

Orders for electrical machinery, such as computers, slumped 7.3 per cent to \$19.20 billion, more than erasing a 4.8 per cent gain in January.

Non-electrical machinery orders, which rose 6.7 per cent in January, fell 8.8 per cent in February to \$18.68 billion.

Nigeria to correct neglect of rural areas

LAGOS, March 22. (Opecna): Nigeria was currently re-directing available resources to rural areas under a policy aimed at correcting "the mistakes and neglect of the past," President Ibrahim Babangida said.

Addressing a ceremony commissioning the agro-allied sack industries in Asaba, Bendel state, at the weekend he said that in response to the need to transform the socio-economic conditions of the rural area, the government launched programmes to complement the efforts of the local, state and statutory federal agencies.

Opportunities

He urged the board of the \$25 million factory to utilise the abundant opportunities and incentives contained in federal government's export package.

Commenting chief Sonny Odogwu, agro-allied board chairman, for inculcating the skills and technology of the plant into the students of the Asaba Technical Teachers' Institute, the president said that such a scheme was one practical way of achieving the necessary transfer of technology.

Odogwu said that the com-

pany's products would include various types of polypropylene and polyethylene bags for export-oriented industrial and agricultural companies.

He also appealed for the establishment of "aggressive" commercial divisions in Nigeria's embassies to help the promotion and growth of Nigeria-made products in overseas markets.

Incentives

He urged the federal government to consider granting incentives and reduction of duties to rural-based industries, located far away from sea ports.

Bendel state governor Colonel John Ileri said that the state

government had embarked on the establishment of industrial areas of Benin, Auchi, Sapele, Warri and Asaba in order to alleviate the problems of prospective industrialists in the state.

He said that since the Bendel government introduced its privatisation policy, a number of ventures, including the Bendel wood and the Bendel plastic industries, had been sold outright.

Under the policy the state government also overhauled the share structure of the Bendel textile mills, he added.

He said the state government allocated about \$750,000 in its budget to small-scale industries.

S. Africa suspends customs deal with Turkey

JOHANNESBURG, March 22. (Reuters): South Africa will suspend a customs agreement with Turkey which allowed the cheap import of Turkish goods, trade officials said today.

Pretoria said it would withdraw the concession temporarily from April 29.

"Consideration is being given to reinstatement of the rebate after consultations with the Turkish authorities and ... with trade and industry in South Africa," Department of Trade and Industry spokesman Theo Van Der Merwe added.

Competition

The concession, granted on January 1, meant that all goods from Turkey carried a maximum customs duty of only three per cent, against a previous average of 30 per cent.

South African manufacturers complained they would face unfair competition from Turkish goods, especially textiles.

Plan to build factories, textile plants and industries

Taiwan keen to boost investment in US

TAIWAN is following in Japan's footsteps and committing vast sums in direct foreign investment to build factories, textile plants, and technology-based industries in the United States.

This trend marks the second major push into North America after Tokyo-based multinationals began their headlong rush to invest billions in factories and in real estate during the early 1980s.

Although small by comparison, Taiwan is turning its reserves of more than \$80 billion into an opportunity to forge a relationship with America.

Investment

That new relationship is as much political as commercial. By creating goodwill around the United States, this prosperous yet diplomatically isolated island neutralises some criticisms about formerly closed markets.

Taiwan tallied a \$15.8 billion trade surplus with the US in 1986, and final figures for 1987 should be higher.

The scope of the investment surge in the US includes textiles in Georgia, facilities owned by China Steel, Tatung electronics plants, and electricity-generating

projects by the utility Taipower. There are 10 moderate-size Formosa Plastics factories. Petroleum industries are being considered.

There is now more than \$1.25 billion in direct investment from Taiwan in the US.

That amount will grow. The reason is that a parade of states, and some cities, are touring Taiwan — bypassing Japan as they seek investment from the Pacific Rim.

Jimmy Lyles, president of the Corpus Christi, Texas, Chamber of Commerce, believes his city's growing bilateral ties are a natural evolution. To promote economic development, the chamber began an outreach effort last summer. "Tangible results came pretty soon," Lyles recalls.

Goods

Other states are following the same tactic. The roster of states with headquarters in the towering Taipei World Trade Centre includes Arizona, Colorado, Oregon, and Washington.

Maryland and Illinois will establish offices there later this year.

At the same time, Taiwan is

increasing its purchases of US goods, thereby attempting to foster company-to-company relationships. These can assist in forging joint-venture projects, especially in technology-related fields.

Since 1979, about \$10.5 billion worth of "Made in USA" goods have been purchased in official "Buy America" missions.

Impact

"As Taiwan makes more concessions on copyrights and liberalises to allow American companies to invest on reasonable terms," says Mark van Fleet, director of Asia-Pacific affairs at the US Chamber of Commerce, "her investments here will rise."

While some state officials privately insist that Taiwan is easier to work with than Japan, others disagree. "They're good businessmen, they have savvy," says Gerald Wilson, chief of Florida's Bureau of International Trade and Development.

The impact of some investments is substantial. For example, one Taiwanese project is Corpus Christi's Project Bullwinkle — the world's largest off-

shore oil rig.

An Wang, the computer magnate, has inaugurated a \$500 million investment pool whose purpose is to investigate solid "sunrise industry" possibilities in both countries.

The boom in Mexico's maquiladora "twin plants" programme has also lured Taiwanese investors.

Incentives for setting up plants along the border are identical to those that attract American companies. Labour-intensive aspects of production can be handled on the Mexican side, with significant savings in certain sectors.

Costs

Costs in the electronics industry in the Rio Grande Valley range from \$4.27 to \$5.19 an hour, about double Singapore's \$2.32, and more than twice as much as Hong Kong's \$2.02 in comparable industries.

Yet when electricity rates, rent, and freight charges are added in, savings range from 1 per cent to 10 per cent over those three nations, and over Taiwan as well.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Mexico announces economic aid plan for Central America

CARACAS, March 22. (Reuters): Mexico today announced a 10-point financial aid programme for Central America, including an innovative debt relief scheme, aimed at helping the war-torn countries rebuild their economies.

Finance Minister Gustavo Petricoli told the 29th annual meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) here the international community should support the initiative.

"This programme reflects a belief that economic development must be assisted to prevent the social fabric of these countries being destroyed and tensions that threaten increased conflicts in the region," he said.

Assistance

Eight Latin American presidents meeting in Acapulco last November agreed to draw up economic assistance to Central America, but this is the first concrete plan announced.

The plan also includes refinancing \$100 million in debt owed to Mexico by Costa Rica, with an innovative mechanism to share the present discount on third world debt. Costa Rica has a total foreign debt of \$3.8 billion.

The idea is that the two countries take advantage of the discounts on debt in secondary

markets to their mutual advantage," Mexico's credit director, Angel Gurria, told Reuters.

This will be the first time such a mechanism has been used between Latin American countries to settle intra-regional debts. Mexico last month concluded a debt-for-bonds exchange, under which creditors bought \$3.7 billion of its \$105 billion debt at a discount of 30.23 per cent, allowing it to retire \$1.1 billion in foreign debt.

Plan

The plan announced by Petricoli includes four accords to be signed today, including renewal of \$50 million deposited in the Central American Economic Integration Bank (BCEI).

Mexico will provide the BCEI with technical cooperation in industrial programmes through state-owned Nacional Financiera, assistance from Mexico's foreign trade bank to help boost Central American exports and a programme of scholarships.

Petricoli said Mexico also plans six other steps that will be implemented in the near future, including a revolving fund of \$65 million, in Mexican pesos, to grant special financing to Mexican importers of Central American goods.

Mexico will also establish a

technical assistance agreement with the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) to advise Central American countries on how to resolve their foreign debt problems.

As part of this, it will sign today a letter of intent with Costa Rica to restructure its debt with Mexico. Gurria said the agreements terms will be completed later.

Other points include identification of development projects for Central America, with help from ECLA and the UN development programme, stimulation of Central American farm exports to Mexico and moves to revive the Central American common market.

Debt

It also involves seeking special action by the IADB to resolve Central America's debt problems. The external debt of five Central American countries, not including Panama, last year came to \$18 billion.

"Despite the crisis facing most of our countries, we ... are convinced we have the will to overcome the present circumstances," Petricoli said.

He said the debt discount scheme with Costa Rica should be extended to other intra-regional debts, and called on the IADB to help.

Air fares rise in Egypt as government takes IMF medicine

CAIRO, March 22. (Reuters): Egyptians paid one-third more for air tickets today and the government tinkered with its exchange rate system in a sign it was swallowing economic medicine prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Bankers and Western diplomats said a decision to scrap one of the rates at which the Egyptian pound is calculated against the dollar was a move towards unification of Egypt's exchange system long sought by the IMF.

The move, announced on Monday by Economy Minister Youssef Mustapha, was also seen as an indication Egypt would continue to work with the IMF despite problems fulfilling its reform demands.

Agreement

"It seems to be moving towards IMF terms and that should help another agreement and Paris Club rescheduling," a Western banker said.

Egypt and the IMF signed a standby credits deal last May which paved the way for rescheduling by the club of Western creditor governments of payments on Egypt's \$43.9 billion debt from January 1987 until next June 30.

The IMF has not given a public verdict on Cairo's economic

reforms. But Western diplomats said it wanted more action to raise domestic interest rates, reduce subsidies, unify exchange rates and cut the budget deficit.

Mustapha on Monday abolished a rate, called the "commercial bank rate," which has risen steadily since May last year from £1.35 to the dollar to around 2.00.

In practice, few deals were still conducted at that rate and the impact of the change would be limited, diplomats said.

The few remaining commercial rate transactions were switched to the main exchange rate, fixed daily by a committee of bankers and called the "market rate." It stood on Monday at £2.25 to one dollar.

The government said it was retaining an artificially low rate of £0.70 to one dollar at which imports of subsidised wheat, flour, cooking oil, sugar and tea are priced.

Pledge

This was in line with President Hosni Mubarak's pledge not to allow IMF-linked reforms burden the Arab world's largest, and possibly poorest, population by raising prices of basic goods too high.

A decision to raise the cost of air tickets by 33.3 per cent was independent of the exchange rate shift.

Egyptian and foreign airlines had long been promised a one-third increase when the government abolished the commercial rate at which fares were calculated, airline officials said.

In scrapping the commercial rate, the government also set a new rate for customs duties of £1.89 to one dollar so as not to increase the cost of imports.

Western diplomats said this might upset the IMF, but the changes were on the whole in line with what it wanted.

Facilitate

They said it would facilitate a new application by Cairo for Paris Club rescheduling of debt payments from next July until the end of 1989 which would have been hard if the IMF agreement had gone wrong.

But the exchange rate changes, in fact brought Egypt into line with its commitments to the fund, which is to be completed by June 30, one diplomat said.

Bankers said there would be no major inflationary impact except on air travellers — clearly judged by the government as capable of bearing the extra burden.

Following a secret review of Egypt's performance by senior IMF officials this month, fund experts were due to return to Cairo in early April, diplomats said.

points to 1,436.7.

PARIS: Shares opened the main session lower in quiet trading with most major investors sidelined. The 50-share indicator dropped 1.36 per cent early in the session.

ZURICH: Shares ended mostly easier on moderate turnover, with mild profit taking. The Swiss index fell nine to 850.5 points.

LONDON: Prices were mixed with an easier bias as the market continued this week's lacklustre trend. Volume continued depressed. At 1530 GMT, the FTSE 100 index was 4.3 points lower at 1,836.8.

Dresdner Bank to open branch in India

NEW DELHI, March 22. Dresdner Bank of the Federal Republic of Germany has been permitted by the Reserve Bank of India to open a representative office in India. Dr Christoph von Der Decken, member of the board of managing directors of the bank for Asia announced here last week, according to Economic Times.

Dr Von Der Decken told newsmen that the direct presence in this country would enable Dresdner Bank to intensify Indo-German economic ties and "serve our clients even better."

Dresdner Bank which is participating in "Technogama India '88" is offering advice in important banking areas like export financing, Euro-finance, countertrade and electronic banking.

Activities

The bank decided to increase its activities in the Indian sub-continent following the liberalisation of the Indian economy and a gradual opening of the market to foreign investors, although during the last three decades it has built up close relationships with all leading Indian banks and financial institutions engaged in international business. Dr Von Der Decken said.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 22.3.88			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
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2	Croesus	Gh N Q	4747815
3	Ibn Shuhaid	KSA	4843150
4	Paschal	ISA	2441860
5	Roman Pazinski	/A Seas	2441303
6	Sham	Gh N Q	4747815
7	Rashid	ISA	4747815
8	Iris Everett	ISA	2441860
9	Dresden	Steamco	4399973
10	Adriatic	United	2463150
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SALMIYA, behind the Family Bookshop, one room, with water and electricity for a family or two working girls. Bus routes 15, 14, 19, 30, 505, 109, KD 60. Tele. Mr. Rodriguez, 5746754.

SALWA (behind Irani shop), House No. 196, Block No. 7. One big room with water, electricity and kitchen facilities for a family/bachelors to share with an Indian family. Bus 34, 102. Rent KD50. Tele. 5611243.

SALMIYA, House No. 12, Khalaf School. Two rooms with water, electricity, and tele. facilities for two bachelors/couple to share with a family. KD 25 per person. Tele. 5612240.

NUGRA, Khaladon Street. One big independent furnished room with water, electricity and tele. facilities to share with an Indian family for one or two bachelors. Tele. Oberoi, 4740801, off. 2644645, res.

SHARQ, Kuwait City, in front of Al Hamba cinema, 1 room with free water and electricity, for two working Filipino ladies, to share with a Filipino couple. KD60. Tele. Nieva, 2422332, 2447529, any time.

NEW Khaitan, Block 4, Street 128, House 903, near Jalal Travel, for a small Indian Muslim family or bachelors. Tele. Mr. Layak Ali, tele. 2416684/32/50, 7.30 am - 12.45 pm & 4 - 8.30 pm. (AT4-41517-3)

SALMIYA, main road, Building No. 85, House No. 3, opp. Indian School near Kerala Store. Two rooms available with water and electricity. Bus routes 19 and 30. Rent KD60. Contact after 2.30 pm. (AT4-41512-3)

For Rent
SURRA, Area 4, Block 245, in front of the Co-op and Alfarsy wedding hall. Deluxe villa: 2 floors, basement, in cream marble and brown granite, suitable for embassy residence. Tele. 2463106, 4 - 12 pm. (AT3-41473-3)

SALWA, Area 6, near the Gulf English School, 3 bedrooms, a large salon, a hall, a wide kitchen, gas supplement, free electricity, 2 bathrooms. Rent KD 230. Tele. 5617770, 5642773, afternoons. (AT5-41523-2)

KUWAIT City, Khairi Building, opp. Ashraf Studio. Independent room for two Indian bachelors or couple sharing with family. Tele. 2414065. (AT3-41493-3)

IN Jabriya, a flat with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large living room. Tele. 5153333 daytime, 5743299 evening. (AT2-41448-3)

SALWA, deluxe, CAC, brand new apartment comprising 3 bedrooms, living room, dining room, 2 bathrooms and large fitted kitchen. Rent KD300. Tele. 5391720/5382783. (AT3-41477-6)

JABRIYA, 1/2 villa, excellent location, 3 bedrooms, one master bedroom, 2-1/2 bathrooms, living and dining rooms, with or without swimming pool. Tele. Kalid Al Kawali, 5339280, 5339281. (AT5-41535-6)

MISHREF, near the central Mishref supermarket, 1st floor of villa, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, CAC, heating, separate entrance, access to the roof. Completely new. Tele. 9031256, 5611531. (AT5-41534-3)

FOR SALE

Cars

CHEVROLET Impala 79 model, AC, automatic, green, in good condition. KD450 cash. Tele. Mr. Siva, 5619758/9/805, 7 am - 6 pm. (AT4-41504-6)

PONTIAC, Trans-Am 1981 model, AC, fully automatic, gold, in very good condition. KD650 cash. Tel. 3900280, 4 - 8 pm. (AT3-41472-3)

SAPPORO 82 model, manual gear, AC, reg. till 88, best offer. Re-advertised due to time waster. Interested parties only tele. 4894315, 9.30 am - 12 noon only. (AT4-41500-2)

MERCEDES 450SLC, 1979 model, AC, automatic, sunroof and television, in excellent condition. KD3000. Best offer. Cash. Tele. Joe, 3717691, 2 - 8 pm. (AT3-41490-3)

SUBARU GL-10, 1987 model, air-conditioned, fully auto-matic, twilight blue, 2600 kms, digital dashboard in excellent condition. KD 79x37 instalments. Tele. Ghazi, 4749853, after 6 pm. (AT5-41529-3)

CRESSIDA, 1987 model, AC, manual, white, 2000 km, in excellent condition. KD2600 cash. Tele. Rolando, 5754202 after 2 pm. (AT3-41488-3)

MERCEDES 190E, 1986, AC, automatic, beige, with sunroof in excellent condition. KD 4000 ono. Tele. 2429436. (AT5-T/M-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant GLS. Purchased in Dec 1987 registered upto Dec 1990. Fully automatic, 6,800 kms in good condition. Best offer. Tele. Joe, 2403600, 9 am - 1 pm, 4 - 8 pm. (AT3-41478-3)

PEUGEOT 505 GL, 1987, manual, maroon, 31000 kms. Owner leaving Kuwait. In excellent condition. KD2600 cash. Tele. 5626357, 4 - 8 pm. (AT4-41497-3)

HONDA Prelude, 1982, AC, automatic, dark blue, sunroof. Owner leaving Kuwait. Rumaithiya, Opp Junior Indian School, Awqaf Bldg. 1807, Flat 7. KD400/- cash. Tele. 5637910. (AT4-41514-3)

OPEL Rekord 1985, beige, AC, automatic, PW, stereo, one owner from new, in excellent condition throughout. KD1,650 negotiable. Cash. Tele. Ayman, 2438701, 8 am - 5 pm. (AT3-41491-3)

NISSAN Liberta 1984, fully automatic, red colour. In excellent condition. KD650 ono. Tele. Artin, 2431126, during office hrs. (AT4-41498-3)

TOYOTA Cressida, '84 model, AC, manual, white. In excellent condition. Tele. 5380798 after 9 am. (AT5-41520-3)

MAZDA 929 box, model 1986, AC, automatic, metallic green, 44,000 kms. In excellent condition. KD1350 to the company, KD75 monthly instalment and KD850 for the owner. Tele. 5613123, after 3.30 pm. (AT3-41479-3)

NISSAN Liberta Stanza, 1983 model, automatic, AC, registered till 9/3/1989. In very good condition. KD400/- cash. Tele. Mohammad, 2415865, 8.30 am - 1 pm, 4.30 - 7.30 pm. (AT4-41507-3)

Furniture
BEDROOM set, video, TV, file cabinet, stove, lamps, cupboards, shelves, tent, rowing machine. Tele. Musaab, 5725179 or 2467161. (AT3-41488-3)

Miscellaneous
RM250 watercooled Suzuki 1983. KD280. Many extra parts. Tele. Joe, 3717691. (AT3-41489-3)

HITACHI split units, 4 pieces, other electrical items, furniture and many other household items. Tele. Nimer Yousef, 2610025, 5617902, 2 - 5 pm. (AT4-41505-3)

KAWAI electronic organ, model E650DX, sparingly used. In showroom condition. Tele. 3916159, 1.30 pm for appointment. (AT4-41508-6)

NATIONAL desert cooler, unused, electrical appliances, wardrobe and new carpet. Tele. F. Devas, 2413757. (AT4-41513-2)

MISTRAL windsurf in excellent condition with harness, wetsuit, roof-rack, surfing shoes and an extra sail. Tele. 3945500/6, Room 73. (AT4-41465-3)

FRIDGE KD25, freezer KD35, cooker KD30, book shelves KD15, display cabinets KD10, carpet, curtains etc. Tele. Mr. David 2455315 morning, 2404870 evening. (AT4-41511-3)

Boats
ALMAR Hull (Belgian), nineteen feet, 235 HP (American V-8). In good condition (100 running hours). KD1,350. Tele. Roger Eley, 4732714/4732480/8020336, 7.30 am - 4.30 pm. (AT4-41496-3)

SEA Raider, 6 seats, 14 ft, 50 HP Suzuki, complete with ski equipment. In good condition. KD450 or offers. Tele. Dunford, 5314737, after 2 pm. (AT4-41509-3)

VULCAN GRP racing dinghy, 17ft. All gear including spinner, trapeze and 4 HP outboard o/b. In good condition. KD475. Tele. Dunford, 5314737, after 2 pm. (AT4-41510-3)

PETS

WANTED for a Chinese female pug, company of a male Chinese pug with marriage and family life in mind. Tele. 5659551, 12 noon - 6 pm. (AT4-41516-3)

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PERSIAN cats, grey colour, 10 weeks old, KD 65 each. Tele. Mr. Hassan, 3943570. (AT5-41528-3)

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WANTED, partner to share a container to Mangalore proper, leaving Kuwait between 15th and 30th April. Interested please contact Raymond Tele. 5751873, 9 am - 5 pm. (AT5-41531-3)

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Transport

REQUIRED for a lady from Bneid Al Qar (behind Hilton Hotel) to Fahd Al Salem Street, near Sheraton circle. Timings are 8 am - 1 pm and 4 - 7 pm. Tele. 2524729 after 2 pm. (AT3-41474-3)

REQUIRED from Jabriya, (Fourth Ring Road) to Salmiya, and Salmiya to Jabriya. Jabriya to Salmiya 1 pm Salmiya to Jabriya 3.45 pm. Tele. Gill, 5615887, after 7.30 pm only. (AT4-41502-3)

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Villa CAC, fully furnished in Mishref — KD 700/- Apartments in Jabriya — 3 rooms, CAC, KD 400/-
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PAKISTAN DAY

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

President Zia's call to the nation.

Unity, solidarity, harmony

Message of the President on the occasion of Pakistan Day, 23rd March, 1988

"MARCH 23 is a memorable day in the history of Pakistan. Forty-eight years ago, on this very day, the representatives of the Muslims of the subcontinent declared their collective resolve in Lahore, from the platform of the All-India Muslim League, that the establishment of an independent and sovereign state, comprising the Muslim majority areas of the subcontinent, was their sole and common demand.

It was as a result of the outstanding qualities of leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah (R.A.) and the complete unity displayed by the Muslims of the subcontinent that, within a short span of seven years, since the adoption of the Pakistan Resolution, the emergence of an independent and sovereign Islamic State of Pakistan on the map of the world was made possible. Attainment of victory in such a short period is indeed a unique example in the history of



President Zia-ul-Haq

freedom movements. This day teaches us the lesson that unity solidarity and harmony in national affairs is a key to success. At present, the task before us is the stability and reconstruction of Pakistan. Therefore, the nation will have to endeavour unitedly, and in unison, to achieve this goal.

For us, it is also a day to ponder as to how far we have fulfilled the fundamental obligations of the demand and establishment of Pakistan during the past 41 years of our independent existence. The

raison d'être of achieving Pakistan was to transform it into a welfare state based on the concept of the eternal principles of Islam, wherein not only the Quranic injunctions and the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet (Peace be upon Him) reigned supreme, but also the life, property and self-respect of all the citizens, including the minorities, were safeguarded, and a society free of ignorance, want and exploitation could be established.

These are the fundamental objectives which should constantly remain before us. The Government of Pakistan too—especially during the last few years—has been working to achieve this end. However, an Islamic order cannot be established merely through the enforcement of laws. The entire nation will have to contribute collectively to accomplish this mission.

Let us, therefore, take a solemn pledge today that everyone of us will strive hard to realise this noble goal, so that our efforts are blessed with success in this world and the world hereafter."

Pakistan Resolution on 23rd March, 1940, asserted a historic claim

The day a people became a nation

By Sharif-al-Mujahid

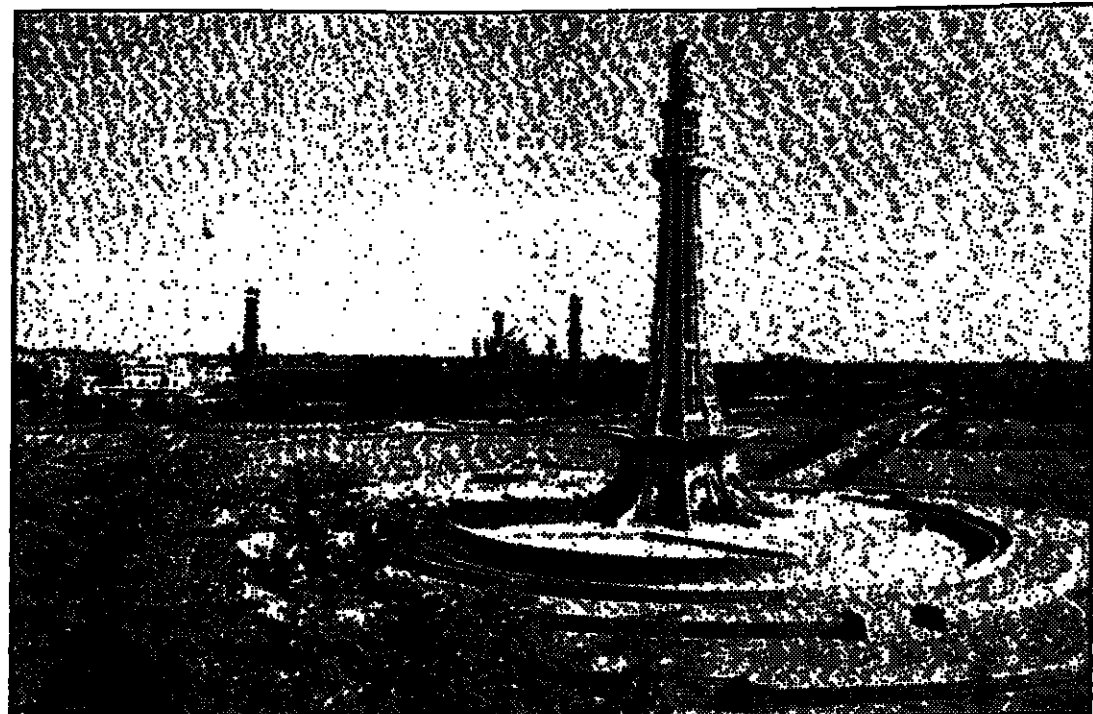
THE significance of March 23 lies in the monumental fact that this day, 48 years ago, the Muslims of the South Asian subcontinent formally asserted — at a mammoth meeting of the All India Muslim League at Lahore, their claim to be a nation by themselves — a nation, separate and distinct from the rest of the subcontinent. And on that basis, they called the establishment of a national homeland in their majority areas.

Interestingly though, the claim was rooted in history, geography, culture, and other attributes that help to weld a people in transforming itself into a "nation". The basis of the claim was succinctly summed by the Quaid-e-Azam (meaning, the Great Leader) of the Muslims, Mohammad Ali Jinnah (1876-1948), who was later to become Pakistan's founding father, when he said:

"We are a nation with our own distinctive culture and civilisation, language and literature, art and architecture, names and nomenclature, sense of values and proportion, legal laws and moral code, customs and calendar, history and tradition, aptitudes and ambitions; in short, we have our own distinctive outlook on life and of life. By all canons of international law, we are a nation."

The idea of separate nationhood

It is also interesting to note that although this was the first time that the Muslims claim to separate nationhood and to a separate Muslim homeland in the subcontinent was put forward in explicit and cogent terms, the idea of separate Muslim nationhood had ever remained central, though in a latent form, to Muslim thought, currents and sensibility in the subcontinent.



The Minar-e-Pakistan in Lahore. This was the site where the Muslims of the subcontinent demanded a separate homeland.

Likewise, the partition idea had been mooted off and on from Abdul Halim Sharar's first proposal in the eighteenthies to Iqbal's presidential address at the Muslim League's Allahabad session (1930), which represented the first authoritative pronouncement on the subject from a political platform on behalf of the Muslim India. The name "Pakistan" itself was coined in 1933 by Chaudhary Rahmat Ali, a Cambridge student.

While the Hindus of India lost themselves in denunciatory epithets, they missed the central fact of the Indian political situation: the astonishingly tremendous response that the Pakistan demand had elicited from the Muslim masses, and how a hundred-million people were now supremely conscious of their distinct nationhood

and their high destiny.

In channelising the course of Muslim politics towards Pakistan, and in directing it towards the establishment of Pakistan in 1947, no one has played a more decisive role than Mr Jinnah. It was his powerful advocacy of the case for Pakistan and his brilliant strategy in the delicate negotiations that followed the formulation of the Pakistan demand, particularly in the post-war period, that made Pakistan inevitable.

First British reaction

While the first concrete British reaction to the Muslim demand came in the form of Cripps Proposal of 1942 (which conceded the principle of self-determination to provinces on a territorial basis), the alternate proposals on behalf of the Congress came in the C. R. Formula of 1943.

This formula finally became the basis of Jinnah-Gandhi talks for eighteen days in September 1944, but came to no avail — chiefly because Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948), the foremost leader of the Indian nationalist movement, would only condescend to assign the Muslims a status no better than that of "a body of converts", and stoutly refused to recognise their right to separate nationhood.

In retrospect, however, the Jinnah-Gandhi parleys represented another step forward on the road to Pakistan. While the Cripps' offer signified British recognition of the Pakistan demand, the Jinnah-Gandhi talks indicated that the Congress could no longer ignore this demand either. Thus, by 1944, it was clear that the central issue in Indian politics was nothing but Pakistan and that it could no more be put under the rug by either the British or the Hindus.

The next move came from the British when, in June 1945, the Viceroy proposed the formation of an interim government at the centre. But the Simla Conference, which was called for that purpose in July, ended in failure since neither the Congress nor Lord Wavell, the Viceroy, would concede the League's representative status.

Cabinet Mission Plan

The elections that followed the same winter, were "a triumphant vindication of Jinnah's claim to represent the Muslims". The League not only captured all the Muslim seats in the Central Assembly but also secured 90 per cent of all Muslim seats in the provinces.

The stage was not set for a final constitutional settlement.

A Cabinet Mission came to India (23rd March, 1946) to devise, in consultation with the various political parties, a constitution-making machinery, and to set up a popular interim government.

In the absence of any meeting ground between the Congress and the League, however, the Mission made its own proposals in May 1946. Known as the Cabinet Mission Plan, these proposals stipulated a limited centre, supreme only in foreign affairs, defence and communications, and three autonomous groups of provinces, two of them having Muslim majority in the northwest and the northeast, and the third one having a Hindu majority comprising the Indian mainland.

Although the Muslim League, guided by Mr Jinnah, accepted the plan, as also the original short-term, interim government plan, both the long-term and the short-term plans could not work. It was mainly because first, of Congress reservations about the limited centre provision in the long-term plan and its over-riding obsession to dominate the interim government instead of sharing power equitably with the Muslims, and because, second, the British acceptance of the Congress position in respect of the interim government plan and its turning the blind eye with regard to Congress reservations regarding the long-term plan.

June Third Plan
The impasse thus created, was finally sought to be overcome by the British decision to quit India by June 1948, and to replace Lord Wavell by Mountbatten as the last Viceroy. As a result of protracted negotiations between the new Viceroy on the one hand and the Congress, the League and the Sikhs on the other, a plan was somehow devised which called for the partition of the subcontinent on the basis of the "Muslim" and non-Muslim majority areas.

The plan was announced on June 3, 1947, and was duly accepted by the three parties to the Congress, the League and the Sikhs. August 14-15, 1947, was fixed as the date for the transfer of power.

August 14, 1947, was Pakistan's date with destiny. On that day, Mountbatten formally

Continued on Page 13

'We have done it once, we can do it again'

Message of the Prime Minister on the occasion of Pakistan Day, 23rd March, 1988

MARCH 23, is a watershed in the destiny of the Muslims of South Asia. On this day in 1940, in a final bid at self-assertion they declared themselves a nation and demanded their own homeland.

Those opposed jeered at it as an empty dream. And yet in bare seven years, the Muslims under the inspiring leadership of the Quaid-e-Azam made it a

reality. Both the concept and achievement revealed the potentialities and the determination of our people when fired with a vision.

To create a new country, in the environment we faced, was truly a miracle but to build it in the image of our dreams and aspirations is no less formidable a task. The challenge, no doubt, is tremendous, so should be our response. We have done it once, we can do it again.

History too is in the making in the region. We have to catch it by the forelock. We have a role to play. A new vision is



Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo

opening up before us. Let us be steady in courage and clear in perception. We shall, Insha Allah, capture it. "Pakistan Paindabad."

Contribute towards Kuwait's prosperity

Ambassador's message on the occasion of Pakistan Day — 23rd March 1988

I WOULD first thank His Highness the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah, for conveying his good wishes on Pakistan Day. On this occasion, I would also like to convey the good wishes of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan to His Highness the Amir, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, our Kuwaiti brothers and to the Pakistanis resident in Kuwait.

Pakistan enjoys fraternal relations with the State of Kuwait. It is our hope and prayer that relations between our two brotherly countries

will continue to gain further depth, characterised by friendship, understanding and trust between our people.

In this context it is relevant to emphasise that the Pakistani community in Kuwait has played a significant role in furthering cooperation between our two countries. I am confident that Pakistanis here would continue to maintain high standards of expertise and contribute fully to the economic life and prosperity of Kuwait.

On the 23rd March 1940, the historic Pakistan Resolution was passed in Lahore by the All India Muslim League as an expression of self-determination of the Muslims of the subcontinent, whose right to exist as a separate nation was

unquestionable in view of their historical affinity forged by a thousand years of Muslim rule in northern India, and their close cultural and religious ties.

Since then, with the grace of Allah, we have not only achieved our country but have made substantial progress as an independent nation in all spheres of life. The Islamic Republic of Pakistan, after 41 years of independence, is a nation of over a hundred million people with a strong agricultural and industrial base. It has also made progress in many sophisticated fields of modern technology. Pakistan can, therefore, justly be proud of their country's achievements.

On this auspicious occasion I would call upon my com-

patriots in Kuwait to re-dedicate themselves to the lofty principles set by the Father of the Nation, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, and to work towards his goal of a democratic Pakistan, based on principles of Islamic social justice. I wish them prosperity in their jobs and occupations in Kuwait.

It is relevant to mention that on 23rd March 1940, the Muslim League also adopted a resolution calling for the self-determination of the Palestinian people and to this day Pakistan has steadfastly supported the just struggle of the Palestinian people for an independent homeland, under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

On the anniversary of that resolution I would like to pray,



Pakistan's Ambassador to Kuwait, Zahid Saeed.

on behalf of all the Pakistanis in Kuwait, that their present struggle in the occupied territories will be crowned with success. They deserve the steadfast and unflinching support of the entire Muslim world.

Five-point programme generates optimism

By S. G. Jilancee

TWO significant events marked the close of the year 1985 in Pakistan: one was the end of the longest period of martial law on the 30th December of that year; the other, on New Year's Eve, heralded a giant step in the socio-economic sphere and a promise of progress.

It was on the 31st December, 1985 that Pakistan's Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo announced his 5-Point programme.

This ambitious Programme seeks to transform the life of the common man ensuring him a meaningful existence and preparing him for the environment of the future.

The 5-Point Programme envisages:

1. The establishment of strong Islamic, democratic political system based on the ideology of Pakistan.
2. Promotion of an equitable economic order, eradicating unemployment and ensuring the prosperity of the people;
3. Preparing the nation for the modern scientific age after removing illiteracy from the country;
4. Putting an end to bribery, injustice and other evils in

society and giving a sense of security and justice to the people; and

5. Consolidation of national integrity and prestige through a strong defence and a non-aligned and balanced foreign policy.

Mid-term review

The Five Point Programme required a mid-term review of the 5-Year Plan in order to readjust priorities and allow resources for this ambitious programme. It required not only huge funds but also dedication, zeal and a close monitoring of the process of execution.

The first point

Towards translating the principles of the "First Point" into action, opposition and dissent were "ungagged." Freedom of expression to the political parties and the media came as a breath of fresh air and it is now universally admitted that the press in Pakistan is "more free today than ever before." The political parties carry on their activities of meetings and processions unhampered and re-elections to the municipalities have been held peacefully.

The other part of the first "Point" related to disseminating the principles of Islamic

policy and the basis of the ideology of Pakistan among the new generation who are unacquainted with the rigours and travails of the struggle for independence.

In order to arrest the drift, the aimlessness and cynicism caused by long periods of martial law, diverse channels are, now, vigorously endeavouring to correct the vision of the youth. These trends include discussions in the press, radio and television besides seminars and symposia on the subjects of Islamic policy and Pakistan's ideology in which opinions are freely expressed in order to arrive at a consensus.

The second point

The "Second Point" relates to removing economic disparity and eradicating unemployment. These two malaises provide the sources for social evils, unrest and disorder. Hopeful signs are evident from the increase in the GDP by 7.0 per cent during the period June 1985-July 1987, or in fact, the first full financial year of the Five-Point Programme.

This growth rate in the GDP exceeded the trend of growth rate of 6.7 per cent maintained during 1986-87 and compares favourably with the Plan target of 6.8 per cent.

Prices remained stable and agricultural output, as well as the manufacturing sectors, were stimulated, recording a growth, respectively, of 5.9 per cent and 7.4 per cent in 1986-87.

Unemployment

The Programme envisages the creation of 700-thousand new jobs during the four-year period: 1986 to 1990. These jobs will absorb teachers, mechanics, engineers, doctors and para-medico, and a large number of other non-technical personnel, such as clerks, messengers etc., in the tremendously expanded schemes for mass literacy projects; building farm-to-market roads; anti-water-logging and salinity; developing residential lands for housing the homeless; construction of basic health units and other medical facilities in the villages, and rural electrification.

For the unemployed professionals — engineers, doctors, the government has set apart considerable funds to be advanced as loans on easy terms, to enable them to start their own trade or business.

Literacy, in Pakistan, has remained very low; only 26 per cent during the last forty years of independence. Prime Minister Junejo, through his 5-Point

Programme, is determined to double the rate, in four years time.

The Programme has therefore, been launched with the fullest vigour. A Literacy and Mass Education Schemes (LAMEC) has been created to look after and run the "Nai Roshni" (New Light) schools meant for those young children who cannot go to regular schools. It promises to create about 25 thousand new jobs for teachers for 22,000 such schools. The figures of student enrollment and the number of teachers joined "from 1st March to 23rd April 1987" (merely) two months after the start of the Scheme (Pakistan Economic Survey 1987), shows hopeful signs.

The "Iqra Pilot Project of Literacy," which is confined to the Federal Capital only, had 5,174 teachers, and 27,763 registered students (all adults), from October 1, 1986 to 31st March 1987, (ibid). Of the total number of students, 21,869 were female.

In addition, nearly 4,000 new primary schools and about 5,000 Mosque schools have been established and more than five million additional enrollment in the primary classes (I-V) has been achieved.

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HAMDARD (Waqf) PAKISTAN



Ambitious plans for private sector

THE Shahwani Group (Pvt) Limited is engaged in various business activities with very ambitious plans in the private sector, to boost the economy of the country, says S. Akhtar, the chief executive of the group.

S. Akhtar, who has been associated with business and trade in Gulf and other European countries for more than two decades, is now active in Pakistan and hopes to attract foreign investment for his ventures.

The Shahwani group, which has already launched two groups in Karachi and Islamabad, plans to set up branches in the UAE, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia to bring in foreign exchange for the country.

"Pakistan is Dubai, Abu Dhabi and other Middle East countries invest in American and European firms. If they get a better and safe opportunity in their country, they would be happy to invest here," reasons Akhtar.

Presently, the Shahwani Group is involved on a number of projects: a paint factory, tea company, building & development, and trading activities. It will also set up an auto-rickshaw assembly plant soon. The rickshaw will be fuelled by gas and petrol.

The entire financing for this project will be in foreign exchange besides the group's own investment in Pakistani rupees. The plant will be set up in the Duty Free Processing Zone, in Chumiani.

The Shahwani Group recently obtained permission for setting up the Agricultural and Industrial Development Cooperative Society against a security of 5 crore rupees deposited with the government of Pakistan. Initially it would be operating 52 branches throughout the country within the next couple of months. The objective of the cooperative society is to undertake many agro and industrial projects, advance small loans to small and middle class landlords, loans for fisheries, agricultural equipments, seeds and fertilizers.

Pakistan's marvel of civil engineering

Highway to the roof of the world

By Mohsin Ali

FROM Karachi to Kashgar the 'roof of the world' — not by plane but by car.

That, in effect, is what the Karakorum Highway, accomplishes.

The 500-mile-long dual-carriage thoroughfare hacked out of the world's toughest mountains and glaciers by Pakistan Army engineers and the Chinese experts and technicians merits the accolade of being a marvel of civil engineering and even as the eighth wonder of the world.

The all-weather Highway actually starts from Havelian (60 miles from Rawalpindi) and propels itself through Abbottabad, Mansehra, Thakot, Chilas-Gilgit-Hunza — all the way of Khunjab Pass on the Chinese frontier across which lie Yarkand, Kashgar and other fabled cities of Sinkiang.

Eternal link

The metalised road thus forges what has aptly been termed "an eternal link" between Pakistan and China, accelerating trade, commerce, travel and economic co-operation between the two to the benefit of both.

Appropriately, Pakistani and Chinese road builders sweated and toiled for more than ten years, shoulder to shoulder to push the road forward through forbidding regions, desolate, rugged and gaunt at places hellish and elsewhere haunting.

Several died in the process following landslides, avalanches and other mishaps attendant upon moving mountains for the road to thread through.

Chinese and Pakistani graves and memorial tablets here and there along with highway in its upper reaches stand as sacred monuments to the dedication and steadfastness of these latter-day pioneers who blasted a trail in concrete through regions made famous by history's intrepid pathfinders like Fa-Hian and Marco Polo.

The road, in fact, began as a pioneering venture of the Pakistan Army engineers back in

1959 when work started on what was known as the Indus Valley Road. In 1966, following an agreement with China, it was decided to transform the road into an all-weather, dual carriage highway over the Karakorum, linking Pakistan and China along with the ancient Silk Route.

Construction

In 1969, under another agreement with China, the construction of about 100 miles of the Highway from Khunjab southward was assigned to the Chinese engineers.

Thus, although the Highway follows the original Pakistani design and layout, the Chinese experts, with better road building equipment and machinery, have improved upon the alignments, widened and firmly underpinned the road and, what is more, constructed around 24 bridges along the way, some of them first-rate models not only to mountain bridges but also of classic Chinese architecture, complete with the lions and the lanterns.

A product of the good neighbourly relations and friendship between Pakistan and China, the Karakorum Highway, quite apart from its vital strategic bearings on the geopolitical situation in this part of the world, will directly confer a great many economic benefits on a section of Pakistani population hitherto deprived of even the basic necessities of life.

Benefits

The Highway, for instance, winds through some of the most isolated and inaccessible areas of Pakistan — Kohistan, Gilgit, Baltistan and Hunza — where at places until recently even common articles of daily consumption like salt, sugar, kerosene oil, etc. were not available, or were sold at fancy prices.

They had to be hauled over long distances — from Rawalpindi by air to Gilgit and then on the back of yaks or ponies or men nimble negotiating a difficult mountain trail.

Now trucks and even the mini-Suzuki vans ply up and down the Karakorum Highway loaded with all manner of goods from the bazaars of Pakistani cities for the mountain dwellers all along the new Highway. Prices of sugar, salt, soap, clothing are already down in the mountains even when inflation jacks up the housewives budget in the foothills.

The come-hither lure of the area stems from its cluster of mountain peaks, glaciers and also its geo-political situation. It is, for instance, the only area in the world where three famous mountain ranges meet

— the Himalayas, the Karakorum and the Hindukush.

The only sensitive area, also where the frontiers of five states coverage — Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, India and the Soviet Union wedge apart from Pakistan by a 12-mile stretch of Afghanistan territory, the Wakhan Corridor.

Close by where the Highway passes amid wild beauty, the K-2 (Mount Godwin Austen), the second highest mountain in the world, thrusts 28,250 feet into the sky followed closely by Nanga Parbat (the Nude Mountain) 26,600 feet and Mount Rakaposhi (25,550 feet).

As additional bonus for the hardy climbers seized with the wanderlust, there is another group of 19 mountains peaks at 25,000 feet, some of them unscaled, and 30 of lesser heights of huddled within 15 miles of one another in Baltistan in what has come to be known as a mountaineer's paradise.

Nor does this glittering phalanx of mountains exhaust the infinite variety of the Karakorum Highway's attractions for the tourist and the traveller. For here ancient history, legends of heroism, pioneering efforts and the mystery of frontier crossing also

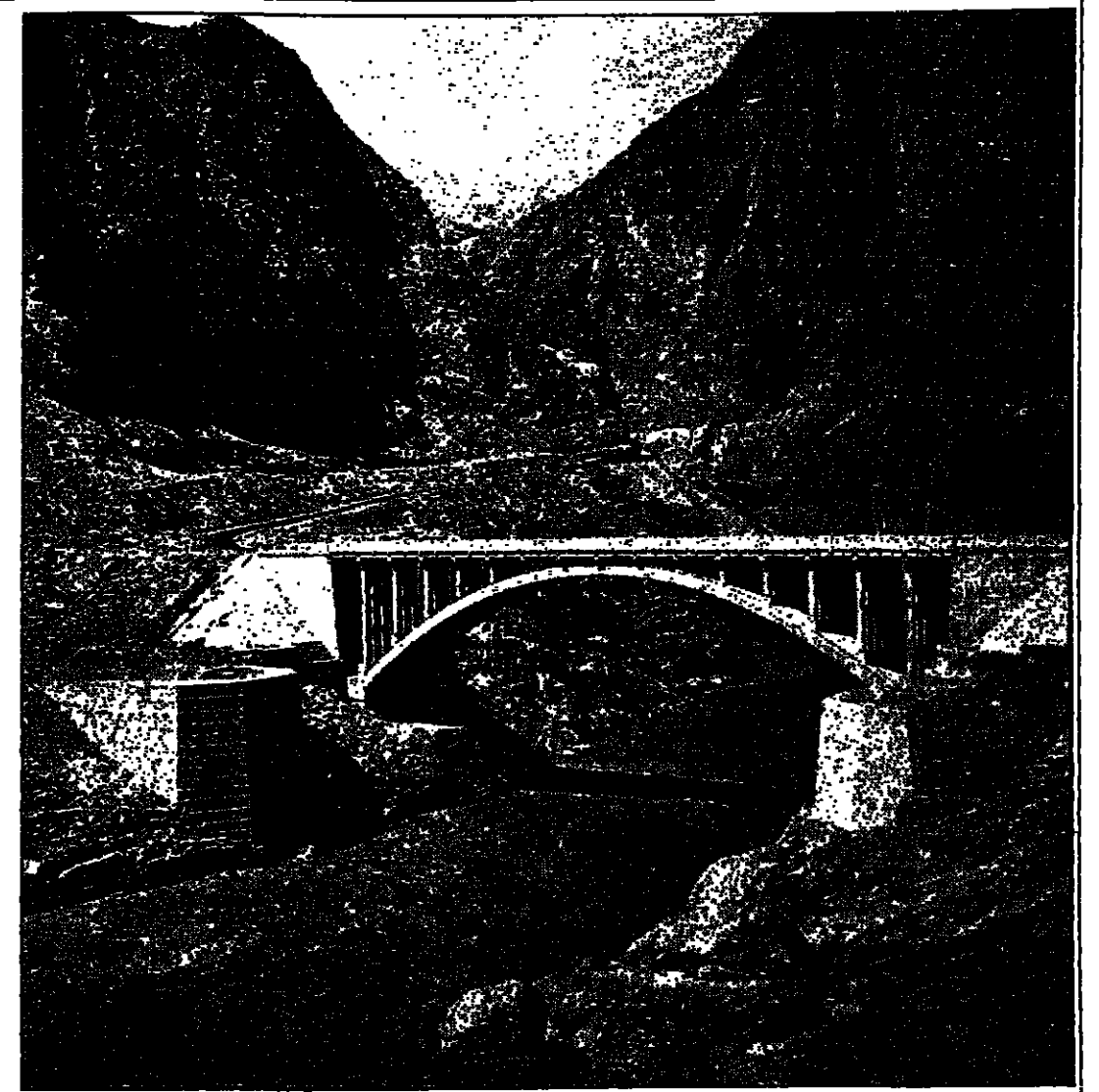
interlace in a fascinating mosaic.

Diamir for example, which the new roadway crosses, is the local name of Nanga Parbat. Its district headquarters, Chilas, had long been the main staging post in the old caravan route from British India over the 13,600-foot Babusar Pass to Gilgit, and beyond.

En route for sheer mountain grandeur and breath-taking panoramas of beauty, few places can match the superb landscape as the Karakorum Highway finally leaves the Indus river, and runs first along with Gilgit river and then the Hunza river topped by the snow-clad Rakaposhi peak before entering Chinese territory at Khunjab Pass at 15,100 feet.

Another equally unforgettable spectacle of the Karakorum Highway is its fantastic passage along the Batura glacier, rated among the world's largest, just before its spectacular descent into China's Sinkiang province (formerly Chinese Turkistan).

The Khunjab Pass and the nearby Mintaka Pass sit securely astride the ancient route that led from China's Yarkand, Kashgar, Khotun into Hunza and the regions beyond.



A newly-constructed bridge on the Karakorum Highway.

Medipak: symbol of Pak-Kuwait cooperation

By Dr Yaseen Rizvi

AN extremely significant dimension was added to Pakistan-Kuwait relations when Medipak Limited went into trial production in the Kot-Lakhat Industrial Estate of Lahore, the historic capital of Pakistan's largest province — Punjab.

The huge US \$ 10 million project went into "soft" opening in April 1986 and was formally inaugurated at a colourful and memorable ceremony presided over by the President of Pakistan, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, on April 12, 1987.

Founded and run by Dr Khalid J. Chowdhry, as its Chief Executive, Medipak enjoys the financial support of the Pak Kuwait Investment Company set up in 1970 with the sole objective of promoting and encouraging industrial growth in Pakistan in essential sectors including health.

The Pak-Kuwait Investment Company is a joint venture of the governments of Pakistan and Kuwait. The basic philosophy underlying the PKIC's financing policy in Pakistan is that Pakistan is a labour-intensive country with abundant skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labour while Kuwait has



President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq inaugurates the Medipak plant in Pakistan. Also in the picture are the Governor of Punjab Makhdoom Sajjad Hussain Qureshi (left) and Dr Khalid Chowdhry, Managing Director.

abundant financial resources to develop those essential industries whose products can be shared between these two brotherly countries.

Investment in setting up industries in Pakistan enjoy greater advantages because of many economic factors. With its headquarters in Karachi, the PKIC has already supported several vital industrial ventures in Pakistan thus strengthening the basis of bilateral relations of Pakistan and Kuwait.

Medipak also manufactures life-saving solutions and delivers them to the market in collapsible bottles made of

made Medipak a round-the-clock production line with a capacity of 5 million bottles of Infusion Solutions and 10 million Infusion Giving Sets per year.

The sales network has been expanded to all the four provinces of Pakistan. The recently concluded second annual sales conference of Medipak expresses complete satisfaction on the pace of Medipak sales in the country and resolved to expand it further in the years ahead.

Medipak is a pioneering project symbolising Pak-Kuwait fraternity. Its products will soon start travelling to the littoral states of the Gulf including Saudi Arabia, the UAE and the Sultanate of Oman.

Since Medipak is financed by PKIC under the investment philosophy mentioned in the foregoing, it hopes to enter into local Kuwaiti market soon. Medipak, as a semi-Kuwaiti manufacturer stationed abroad, finds itself legitimately qualified for registration by the Ministry of Health, Government of Kuwait.

This would necessarily mean that Pakistan's efforts aimed at boosting health care locally and in the region have been augmented by a friend and ally — Kuwait.

...the day a people became a nation

Continued from Page 12

transferred power to the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan on behalf of the British government. In his reply, the Quaid-i-Azam reciprocated the sentiments set forth in the King's message which Lord Mountbatten had delivered, and reminded the newly born nation of the "great responsibilities" that lay ahead. And as a symbol of their new found freedom fluttered atop the newly designed Pakistan flag — the crescent-and-star spangled green of Muslim independence.

The next day, August 15, Jinnah was sworn in as the first Governor-General of Pakistan at Karachi, followed by the swearing-in of the first cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan, till then the General Secretary of the All-India Muslim League.

Thus was the dream of 23rd March, 1940, realised in the creation of an independent Muslim State of Pakistan.

A dramatic turnaround

By Syed Mandi Mustafa

PAKISTAN'S economy has undergone a dramatic turnaround during the past ten years.

The Zia Government inherited an economic quagmire in 1977; the public sector was inefficient and unproductive, and the private sector was demoralised.

Economic growth had averaged only 3.5 per cent from 1970 to 1977, and farm output had fallen to mere 1.6 per cent, half the country's population growth rate.

Widespread nationalisation of industry, including banks and even small rice husking mills and cotton gins, had stifled production and made private investors wary.

The turnaround began in 1977, when the Zia Government, according to the World Bank, "moved firmly and effectively to re-establish fiscal discipline and economic stability, as well as restoring private sector confidence."

The new policies worked, despite a worsening world recession, skyrocketing energy costs, declining foreign aid, and refugee and security costs arising from Afghanistan's crisis.

Since 1977, the economy has grown more than 6 per cent a year, with a 20 per cent increase in per capita real income. Growth in Pakistan's GNP at 6.1 per cent provisionally estimated for 1986-87, though somewhat lower than in the previous fiscal year of 7.3 per cent is still in line with the Sixth Plan (1983-88) target of realising an average annual growth of 6.30 per cent during the Plan period.

During the first four years of the currently operative Sixth Five Year Plan upto 1986-87, GNP has recorded an average

annual growth of 6.32 per cent aided by average annual growth of 4.65 per cent in the agricultural sector and of 7.95 per cent in the manufacturing sector.

Growth in the agriculture sector, on the other hand, which averaged 4.65 per cent annually between 1983-87, is not only almost a third higher than the growth rate of population but is also close to the Sixth Plan target of achieving an average annual growth rate of

4.90 per cent.

Pakistan's economy is generally assessed to be suffering from three key structural weaknesses namely: (1) a high growth rate of population; (2) a low rate of domestic savings; and, (3) an adverse external sector. In the last few years significant breakthroughs have been achieved in the level of domestic savings as also in the external sector account, but the high growth rate of population continues unabated.

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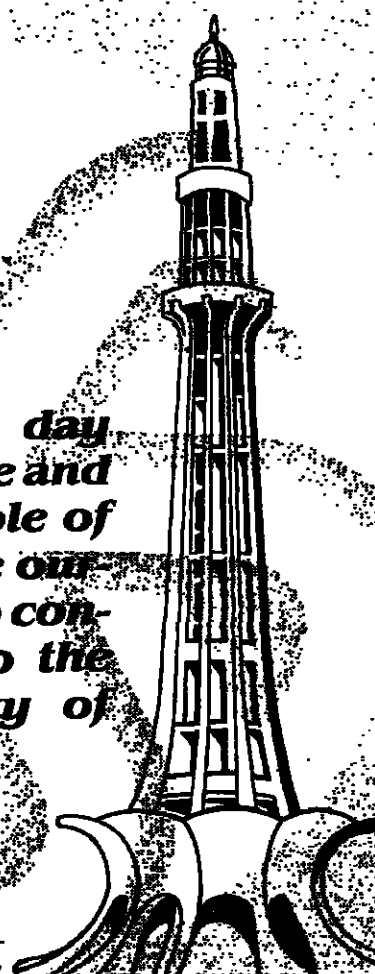
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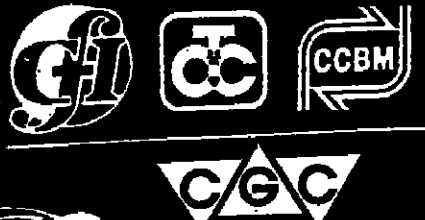


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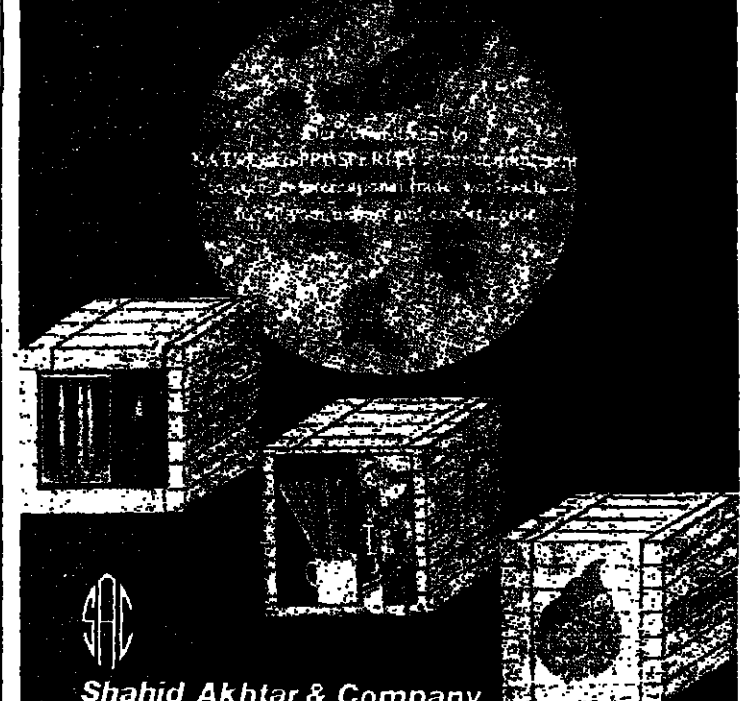
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Culture dominated by Islamic heritage

By A. B. Rajput

THE birth of Pakistan as an independent, sovereign Muslim state in 1947, was a unique event in history. It was the culmination of the struggle for independence of a hundred-million people who claimed to have a homeland of their own because of having a separate nationhood and a culture distinct from the rest of the multitude living alongside them in the Asian Sub-continent.

In trying to evaluate the cultural heritage of a people, one has to look a little closely into the geographical, racial and historical background of the region which they inhabit. And we should, therefore, look at Pakistani culture from this angle.

Pakistan is a comparatively new name on the map of Asia, but the territory it comprises has been the crucible of numerous civilisations, the earliest coming to light recently, goes as far back as 7,000-6,000 B.C. Evidence of this hitherto unknown civilisation has been found at Mehrgarh, about 16 miles from Sibi, in the plains of the Baluchistan province.

Earliest evidence

Excavations at Mehrgarh indicate clearly that people living there more than 8,000 years ago, were involved in the 'Neolithic Revolution', shifting progressively from hunting to farming in the Bolan basin. Here by 6,000 B.C., barley and wheat were fully domesticated and were staple crops. Besides they were already living in small hamlets, breeding sheep, goats, bulls and even buffaloes.

These recent discoveries indicate that the great Indus Valley Civilisation, which flourished in the heart of Pakistan between 3,500 and 1,200 B.C., was an offshoot of Mehrgarh. The remains of the vast cities, such as Harappa and Mohenjodaro, unearthed earlier, disclose the fact that it was highly advanced civilisation with a well-developed

script, a decimal system of weights and measures, and an exquisite plastic art. The people, 5,000 years back, lived here in well-planned towns, built double-storeyed brick-houses with elaborate underground drainage system, and wide thoroughfares cutting at right angles.

The people of the Indus Valley had well-established maritime relations with Mesopotamia and Sumeria, and there appears to have been a flourishing trade and exchange of men and merchandise among them for over a thousand years before the Indus Valley was overwhelmed by the Aryan invaders, or destroyed by floods.

Such lost civilisations have been many, and many more to be discovered in future. Their remains, no doubt, appertain to the past, but the moment we study them closely we find what imprint they have left on our culture as a whole.

As centuries rolled by, Pakistan was subjected to a succession of invasions — the Persian under their kings Cyrus, Darius and Xerxes; the Greek under Alexander the Great of Macedonia, and the Central Asian following them in several waves throughout the Middle Ages till the establishment of stable Islamic rule in the Sub-continent.

Advent of Islam

Islam made its debut in the Sub-continent by the beginning of the 8th century with the conquest of Sind by the Arabs. They originally came as traders from Arabia and went right into the Indus region. By about 712 A.D., when pirates in the Arabian Sea had begun to interfere with their trade, a young Arab general, Mohammad Bin Qasim, was sent out to restore order. This he did successfully, and then he and his followers settled in a little fishing village near the mouth of the Indus, somewhere near the present port-town of Karachi. This small colony traded with the markets in the Indus Valley,

and it was not long before the whole area of what is Pakistan today, came under the Arab influence.

The years that followed, saw further infiltration and consolidation of the Islamic political and cultural domination at the hands of Turks from Central Asia, and the Pathan Sultans mostly coming from the north-west through the historic Khyber Pass.

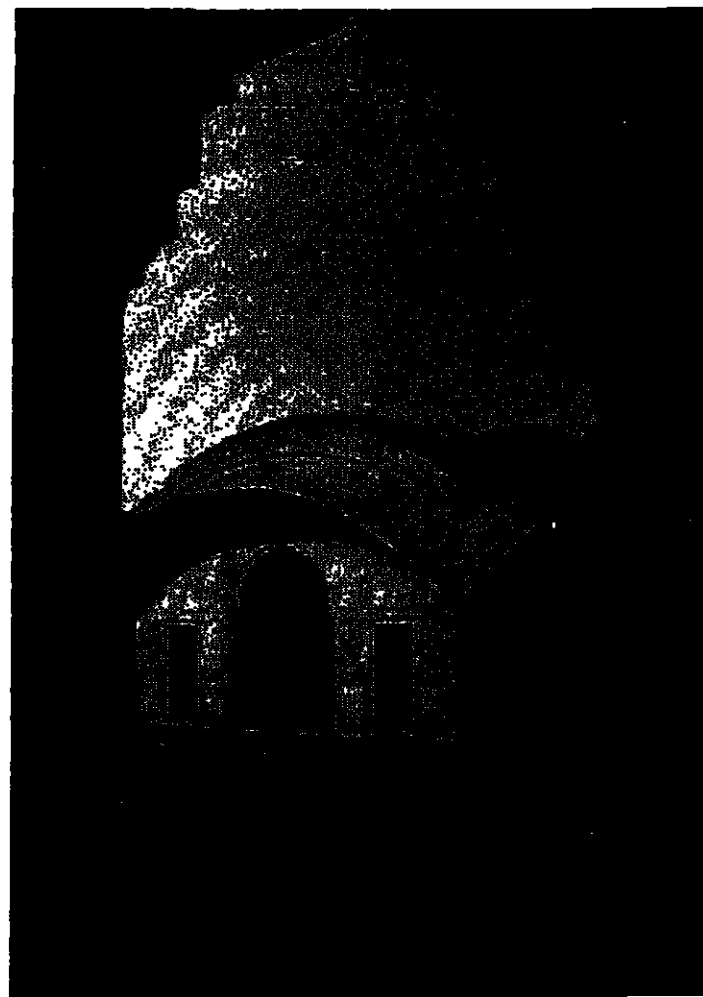
Glory of Mughals

By the beginning of the 16th century, one of the most splendid and glorious empires, was founded in the Sub-continent by Babur, another Turk from Central Asia. His illustrious descendants, known as the Great Mughals, ruled and developed for well over 300 years the cultural and intellectual traditions which are the proud heritage of Pakistan today.

The long span of a millennium, from the arrival of the Arabs to the decline and fall of the Mughal empire, however, laid strong foundations of Islamic civilisation on the soil of Pakistan affecting almost every fact of life and thought. They provided a revolutionary change in the social and cultural traditions, whether it was food and drinks (which are totally different from the non-Muslim culinary traditions), architecture and housing, furniture and drapery, cosmetics and beauty aids, colourful apparel and stylish jewellery etc.

Outside, they acquired the habit of moving about in open bazaars, busy streets, and enjoying the sunny atmosphere, picking up the hitherto unknown flowers and fruits, vegetables and eatables, introduced by the new-comers in the country.

More than these physical changes in the life-style, a much deeper and more effective spiritual renaissance took place during this period among the people all over the Sub-continent. This was the result of the selfless devotion and teachings



A Mughal structure in the Lahore fort.

of the Muslim Sufis and Dervishes, the religious scholars and the devotees of Islam, who travelled from far and wide and came over to this part of the world, to convey the message of love and brotherhood to humanity, without any ulterior motive.

The Sufis and Muslim scholars established Makhtabs and Madrasahs (schools for religious studies) attached to the mosques or the shrines of the holy men, and lit the torch of Islam all over the Sub-continent. The names of Dara Ganj Bakhsh Hajveri (d.1071 A.D. at Lahore), Hazrat Fariduddin Ganj Shakar (d.1265 A.D. at Pak Pattan), Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya (d.1347 A.D. at Delhi), Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti (d.1254 A.D. at Ajmer), Mujaddid Ali Thani (d.1624 A.D. at Sarhind), Lal Shahbaz Qalandar (d. 1274 A.D. at at

Sehwan), and Mian Meer (d.1635 A.D. at Lahore) are just a few among the galaxy of torch-bearers of Islam, who brought about the greatest change ever witnessed in the social and cultural fabric of the Sub-continent. By their teachings, they demolished all barriers of the age-old caste system, of difference between high and low, and of economic inequality, bringing together every one — young and old, rich and poor, black and white — with no distinction whatsoever, before the Almighty, for all the bounties he has bestowed.

Continuing a living tradition

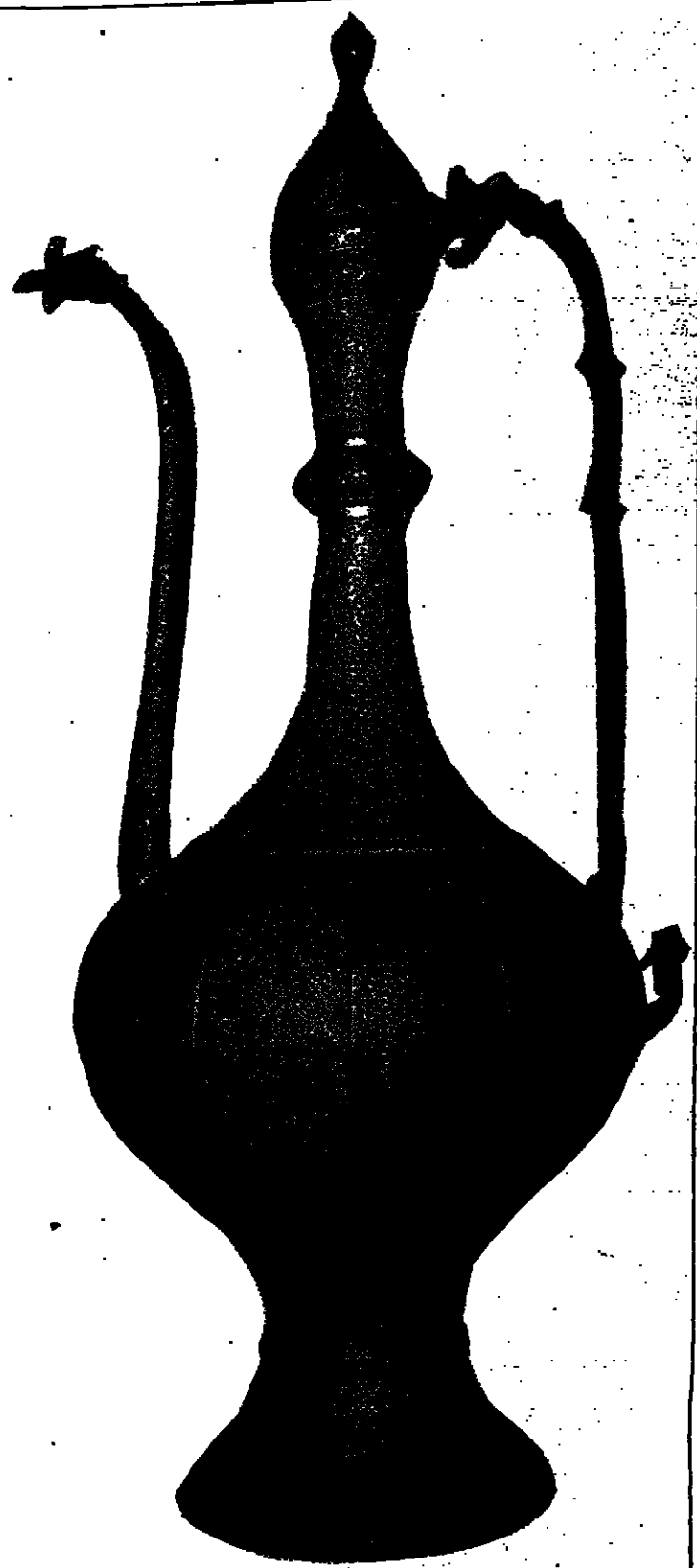
While moving in the present, the people of Pakistan do realise that they are continuing a living tradition of a distinct culture which their forefathers had

established long ago in their own days. They built new roads all over the length and breadth of the country, new cities, new streets and new houses, but above all, they created a new life-style too. This, the Pakistanis have neither forgotten nor given up ever since the period of readjustment and renaissance, resulting in a strong desire for freedom — both political and cultural — from foreign yoke, and continued to manifest itself among all sections of the people.

It was this urge for spiritual and political freedom which laid the foundation of Pakistan and which was ultimately translated from a mere idea of the Muslim poet-philosopher, Allama Iqbal, into reality in 1947, under the dynamic leadership of Mohammad Ali Jinnah, known as the Quaid-i-Azam (meaning: the Great Leader), the Founder of Pakistan.

Today, we find a distinct cultural atmosphere in every city, town, or village. Early morning, the Moazzen calls the faithful for prayers from every mosque-top. At midday, most village folk return to the cool shade of homes, hujras, or go to the nearby groves or gardens, to rest under shady trees. Evenings are for relaxed meetings in Qehwa Khanas — or tea-houses — in which they have all the day's gossip for exchange of experience, sipping endless cups of tea, punctuated by long puffs of the hubble-bubble. Returning home at night, the normal fare which they partake at dinner is naan (thick leavened flat bread) or chapati, with a meat curry or vegetable dish. On special occasions, the meat-and-rice pilau, chicken, or mutton Qorma, and a sweet dish are a must for an average household.

The overall picture of Pakistani culture today is, thus, progressive synthesis of the Islamic way of life and thought with those of the past, 5,000 years of its known traditions. It signifies a sympathetic tolerance towards a host of ideals and attainments and has evolved from them something distinct, something well-rooted, yet something progressive and beautiful, providing a continuous chain of living traditions and showing the vivacity to meet the challenges of the modern times.



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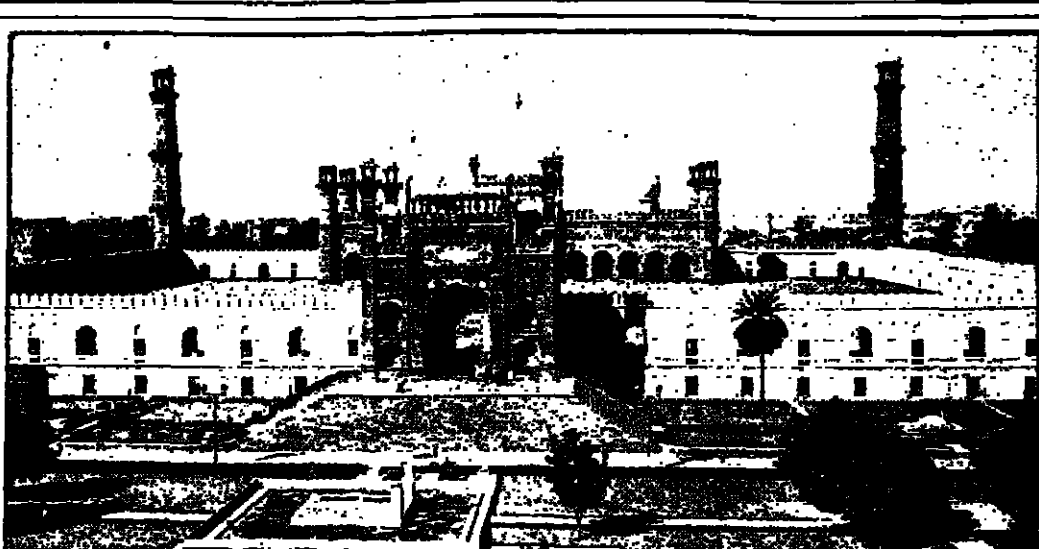
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Every brick is rooted in the past

Thirteen darwazas were constructed as points of entry

Latter-day Moghuls extended the environs of Lahore far beyond the walled limits, and during Aurangzeb's reign came the grand Badshahi masjid, constructed next to the fort which was the royal residence of the time. After Aurangzeb's death began the fragmentation of the empire, a period of darkness, and the takeover by the Sikhs, who mutilated, pillaged and destroyed much of Lahore's Moghul splendour. They ruled with a heavy hand, forcing much of the city's Muslim populace living outside

The walls crumbled, houses springing up in place of the old structure, but the gates remain. Today over 260,000

day a network of mohallas closely connected by narrow lanes and bylanes. Streets still bear the names given them four centuries ago: koocha chiri maran (the sparrow-killers), mohallah patrangon (the dyers lane), koocha chabuk sawaran

These katcha homes are often built on the remains of collapsed or demolished Moghul structures. The look of deterioration is compounded by an acutely sub-standard drainage system.

It has not been determined how the founder of Hamdard, the late Hakim Abdul Majid,

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Action Painting, which is also called **Abstract Expressionism**, consists in splashing, spattering and daubing paint on the canvas in a frenzied and utterly intuitive manner in such a way that it should somehow add up into a harmonious whole. Of course, conventional ideas of what is a neat composi-



Always, or almost always,
the strokes are curvilinear and

There are certain features of Gulgee's Action Painting that give it a distinctly Oriental character and therefore an authentic ring. While all the strokes suggest headlong movement and even convulsion, he seems to restrain and rein in, the flight of his inspiration and the frenzy of his execution by making a few gentle taps with the brush in the form of slow, serene and neat square dabs, large ones, which he places strategically at various points of the seething and swirling activity.





Tobacco cultivation in the province of Punjab, Pakistan. The agricultural sector still remains the most important part of the economy. It provides employment to 55 per cent of the labour force and contributes to more than 60 per cent of the total export earnings of Pakistan.

Pakistan on the road to economic prosperity

Forty years of steady progress

By Iftikhar M. Khan

TODAY we are celebrating the forty-eighth anniversary of the historical gathering at Lahore on 23rd March, 1940 where the representatives of the Muslims of the subcontinent, under the dynamic leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, demanded a separate, independent and sovereign homeland for themselves by passing the famous Pakistan Resolution.

During those earlier years when the Muslims were struggling for the creation of Pakistan, one of the main arguments put forward by their opponents was that such a country would not be economically viable.

These doubts continued to linger in their minds even after the creation of Pakistan on 14th August, 1947. The spectacular achievements in the economic development of Pakistan during the first forty years of its existence, however, prove that all such doubts about the economic viability of the country were unfounded.

National income

During the last forty years, Pakistan's GNP has grown at an average annual rate of 4 per cent per annum which was the fastest rate of growth experienced by the economies of the Third World. In the more recent past, Pakistan was among the very few countries which have achieved economic progress despite a world-wide economic recession. Although growth rates have varied from time to time, they have nevertheless, been highly positive.

Most notable achievements occurred during the Fifth Five-Year Plan (1978-83) when the growth rate averaged 6.7 per cent annually. In the first four years of the Sixth Five Year Plan (1983-88), the GNP is estimated to have grown by about 6.5 per cent annually. According to a recent UN paper entitled 'The World Economy at the end of 1987' Pakistan's GDP rate of growth in 1987 at 6.5 per cent was the highest among the seven largest developing countries which included, apart from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Mexico and Nigeria.

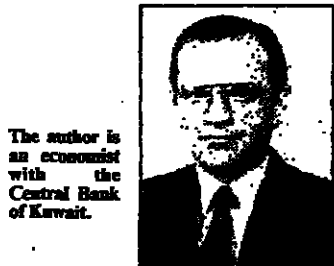
The average rate of growth of these seven countries was a mere 2.5 per cent. Pakistan today enjoys a per capita income which is highest among its neighbouring countries. Pakistan's GNP in 1986-87 at current factor cost was estimated at over Rs. 573 billion with a per capita income of around Rs. 562 as compared with an estimated GNP of just over Rs. 12 billion and a per capita income of Rs. 275 only in 1949-50.

However, the effects of inflation have been quite substantial over these years and the per capita income at constant factor cost of 1959-60 was estimated at only Rs. 349 in 1986-87 against Rs. 340 in 1949-50. The GNP at constant factor cost of 1959-60 was estimated at only Rs. 85.5 billion in 1986-87 as against Rs. 14.7 billion in 1949-50.

Agriculture

In 1949-50, the agricultural sector in Pakistan contributed more than half of the GDP. This sector still remains the most important single sector of the economy, although, it now contributes only 26 per cent to the GDP. Agriculture provides employment to 55 per cent of the labour force and contributes more than 60 per cent to the total export earnings of the country.

Growth in the agricultural sector which was slow at 2.1 per cent annually during the First Five-Year Plan period (1955-60) improved to 3.8 per cent during the Second Five-Year of



The author is an economist with the Central Bank of Kuwait.

1960-65. Pakistan's agricultural sector received a great boost through the Green Revolution of the late fifties when high yielding varieties of seeds were introduced. Since then concerted efforts have continued to be made to increase agricultural production in the country. Over the past ten years, agriculture in Pakistan has particularly benefited by favourable weather conditions and increased efforts for its improvement on the part of the Government.

The index of major agricultural crops (1980-81=100) is estimated to have risen by 6.6 per cent in 1986-87 as against a higher increase of 8.0 per cent a year earlier. The country has now emerged not only self-sufficient in food production but is also a large exporter of these items.

Prospects of the agricultural growth in the current year are good. Production is projected to rise around 4.5 per cent in 1987-88, slightly lower than the

The spectacular achievements in the economic development of Pakistan in the first 40 years of its existence, prove that all doubts about the economic viability of the country during the struggle for independence were unfounded.

estimated 5.9 per cent increase achieved during the last year and 6.5 per cent in 1985-86. The deceleration which occurred last year, despite a recovery in production of rice and sugarcane was attributable mainly to a decline in the production of wheat as a result of damage to Rabi crops due to untimely rains. Production of wheat declined by 13.6 per cent to 12.02 million tonnes during 1986-87 as against a much higher increase of 19.0 per cent in 1985-86. Production of rice, which had dropped by 12 per cent in 1985-86, went up sharply by 19.5 per cent to 3.49 million tonnes during 1986-87. This sharp rise in production was attributable to the increase both in the area and in the yield per hectare. Among the cash crops, production of raw cotton rose from 7.16 million bales in 1985-86 to a record level of 7.76 million bales in 1986-87 denoting a rise of 8.4 per cent. Pakistan has emerged in the past three years as the world's biggest cotton exporter and this cash crop presently accounts for around 18 per cent of the total export earnings of the country.

Industry

The industrial sector in Pakistan has also registered a phenomenal growth over the last forty years. This sector which hardly contributed 7 per cent of the GDP at the time of independence, now contributes almost 20 per cent of Pakistan's total GDP. Thus, heavy dependence of Pakistan's economy on its agricultural sector has been progressively reduced and the economy has turned significantly industrial during the course of this period.

The growth in the manufacturing sector which averaged 5.2 per cent annually during the First Five Year Plan period, more than doubled to an annual average growth rate of 11.7 per cent during the Second Plan. The most significant achievement of the Second Plan was a high annual growth rate of 16.8 per cent recorded by

large-scale manufacturing against 7.6 per cent in the First Plan. In the Third Plan period, the growth rate in the manufacturing sector slowed down to 8.1 per cent followed by a further drop to an annual average of 3.5 per cent during the non-Plan period of 1970-78.

The Fifth Plan period of 1978-83 again witnessed rapid development and the annual average growth in the industrial sector was again high at 10.2 per cent. Last year, the index of industrial production (1980-81=100) rose by 6.7 per cent, slightly lower than the increase of 7.3 per cent in 1985-86. In 1986-87, production of fertilisers rose by 6.8 per cent to 2.920 million tonnes while the production of cement increased by 8.5 per cent to 5.402 million tonnes. Production of refined sugar, which had declined by 14.6 per cent in 1985-86, showed significant increase of 15.2 per cent to 1.286 million tonnes in 1986-87. Increases were also recorded in the production of other items namely cigarettes, paper board and chip board, mild steel products, safety matches, cycle rubber tyres and tubes and jute goods. Production of vegetable products and chemicals however, declined by 0.5 per cent to 0.609 million tonnes and 1.8 per cent to 0.256 million tonnes, respectively, during 1986-87.

Pakistan has not only become self-sufficient in the textiles related products but also earns over one-fourth of its total export earnings through the export of these items. The country produced over 586 million kgs of yarn and nearly 238 million square metres of cloth in 1986-87 against a production of just about 6.3 million kgs of yarn and 29.6 million square metres of cloth in 1948.

Banking

The growth of banking in Pakistan during the past forty years has been remarkable by any standard. In June, 1987 the total number of scheduled banks' offices was 7163 compared with only 81 in June, 1948. Besides the urban centres, banks have opened a large number of branches in the rural areas, thus, covering almost every nook and corner of the country. The scale of banks' operations has also recorded an equally impressive growth over the years. Total bank credit increased from about Rs. 0.2 billion in July 1948 to Rs. 153.1 billion in June, 1987. Over the same period, total bank deposits rose from Rs. 0.88 billion to Rs. 192.8 billion. Total assets of scheduled banks in Pakistan stood at Rs. 414 billion in June 1987 compared to Rs. 132.2 billion in June 1980. Presently there are 26 scheduled banks in Pakistan, of which, nine are Pakistani after the merger that took place as a result of the nationalisation of the banking industry in January 1974. There are now seventeen foreign banks operating in Pakistan with 63 branches throughout the country.

External sector

The banking sector has played a dominant role in the economic development of the country. Since their nationalisation, the Pakistani banks have particularly helped develop public industrial sector through diversification of funds to the public sector enterprises.

During the last forty years,

Pakistan has generally had a negative trade balance which is a pointer to one of the key structural weaknesses of the economy. Large deficits in the trade account had been unavoidable because of larger imports of capital goods and industrial raw materials required for the rapid industrialisation of the country. During the ten years to 1985-86, except in 1980-81, Pakistan's trade deficit has tended to be higher than the total export earnings. The expansion in export sector has generally failed to offset the growth in imports. The country's export base remains limited to seven or eight items dominated by cotton, textiles and rice. There is a need for diversification and also for enlarging the range of exportable commodities as well as seeking new export destinations. It is heartening to note that in 1986-87, the current account deficit has narrowed as a result of contraction in the trade deficit. With country's outstanding external debt in the vicinity of \$12 billion, it is highly important that our dependence on external resources is progressively reduced.

Population

Pakistan's population has increased by an alarmingly rapid pace over the last forty years. The population has almost tripled, rising from 33.74 million in the 1951 Census to an estimated 100.7 million in June, 1987. Pakistan has thus become the ninth most populous country of the world. The growth rate of Pakistan's population under the 1981 Census was estimated at 3.06 per cent. This is the highest growth rate among the nine most populous countries of the world. The high growth rate of population creates serious implications for the economy by putting more pressure on land, increasing unemployment and leading to low availability of social sector needs. Thus, there is an overwhelming need to slow down the rate of population growth through measures of population planning.

Investment, Saving, Unemployment and Inflation

The ratio of gross fixed investment to GNP in Pakistan stood at 14.8 per cent in 1986-87. This level of investment is quite low when compared with the investment levels of other developing countries. Pakistan's national savings rate at present estimated at 14.2 per cent of GNP also compares unfavourably with other developing countries at similar stage of development. Unemployment in Pakistan, according to current estimates is only 3.6 per cent while the rate of inflation was also lower at 3.9 per cent in 1986-87 as against a rise of 4.8 per cent a year earlier.

Social sectors

The remarkable progress achieved by Pakistan in its agricultural and industrial sectors was, unfortunately, not matched by similar progress in its social sectors. Pakistan's literacy rate has remained very low and stood at only 26 per cent under the 1981 Census. At present, it is estimated to have improved a little and may be in the vicinity of 28 per cent. Literacy among the female population is particularly low at 16 per cent. The Prime Minister's Five Point Programme envisages to achieve a literacy level of 50 per cent in the country by 1990. To achieve this target, the government will have to spend considerably more than its current level of 2 per cent of the GNP on education. Likewise, the Prime Minister's Five Point Programme has also accorded priority to the development of health and housing sectors.

Ample scope for Pakistani exports in Kuwait market

By Sh. Beshir Ahmed

Commercial Secretary
Pakistan Embassy,
Kuwait

ELSEWHERE in this supplement, Pakistan's balance of payments position has been outlined which also highlights various aspects of the country's improving economy.

It is relevant also to place before the readers of this economically affluent area the pattern of trade as well as balance of trade between our two brotherly countries.

The economy of Kuwait is based upon "Black-gold"—rich reservoirs of oil and its

exploitation. Agriculture has been the basic sector of Pakistan's economy even though industry is gradually catching up. Reflecting this background, imports from Kuwait consist mostly of oil, oil allied and petro-chemical products whereas Pakistani exports to Kuwait comprise a variety of traditional items such as rice, tents/ canvas, spices, fruits, vegetables, fish, fish products and textile items.

Trade between the State of Kuwait and Pakistan is carried out by direct air transport and the sea route. Some items like fruits and vegetables are exported to Dubai and re-exported by the land-route.

The balance of trade figure since 1979 are as follows:-

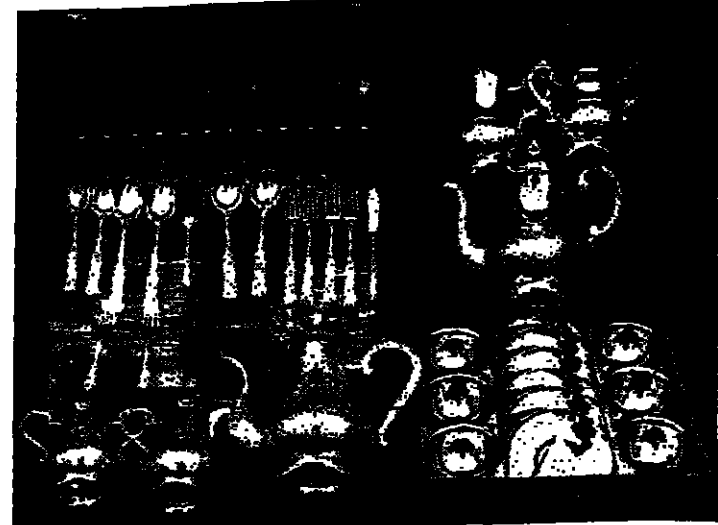
(Value in US Million \$)

Year	Imports	Exports	Balance
1979-79	21.729	233.366	211.637
1979-80	49.154	478.676	429.522
1980-81	51.520	431.939	380.419
1981-82	50.671	546.497	495.826
1982-83	37.327	502.826	465.499
1983-84	52.099	459.401	407.302
1984-85	25.718	465.880	444.162
1985-86	35.853	372.460	336.607
1986-87	31.000	320.000	289.000

Total accumulative imbalance over 9 years: 3,459.974



Carpets and onyxware are popular in the Kuwait market.



Silverware from Stalkot.

The figures clearly demonstrate that Pakistan has over the last decade, contributed handsomely to Kuwait's balance of payments. Given its own balance of payment difficulties, the time has come for more intensive search to correct the imbalance in Pakistan's favour by exporting more to Kuwait.

In this direction efforts are being made to introduce and export to this competitive market a range of new, non-traditional and value-added Pakistani products like surgical instrument, sports goods, complete range of textile products, marble/onyx items, wooden furniture, gold and artificial

ble products and take a lead in the present open and competitive Kuwait market. He emphasised imports into Kuwait are made through open international tenders, inviting only such bidders having professional consideration for quality and competitive prices.

The visits of Pakistani businessmen to Kuwait also need to be facilitated by the adoption of a more liberal visa policy to encourage a study of the Kuwaiti market by Pakistani businessmen.

For the benefit of Kuwaiti importers it is also relevant to mention that apart from traditional exports non-

Pakistan has over the last decade contributed handsomely to Kuwait's balance of payments ... the time has come for a more intensive search to correct the imbalance in Pakistan's favour by exporting more to Kuwait.

jewellery, and small/medium engineering mechanical and electrical products.

During the visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to Kuwait in November, 1987, the Finance Minister Mr. Mohammad Yasin Watto, at a meeting with his counterpart Mr. Mohsin Al Kharafi, emphasised the need for more exports to Kuwait in view of Pakistan's balance of payment difficulties.

The Kuwaiti Finance Minister assured Mr. Watto that exports from Pakistan would be fully encouraged. He said, private sector exporters of Pakistan should identify export-

traditional items which include carpets, surgical and mechanical instruments, sports goods, plastic-ware, tiles, ceramics, safety matches, medical gauze, bandages, gypsum, plaster, leather products, fire fighting equipment, onyx, marble and other house-hold goods are also manufactured and ready for export on competitive prices.

It is hoped that in the near future, exports also comprising above mentioned products, will increase with the combined efforts and mutual commercial understanding already existing between the two brotherly Muslim countries.

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

Sales of Government of Pakistan's Foreign Exchange Bearer Certificates exceed Rs. Ten Billion
(Sales From 1st August 1985 Upto 31 January 1988)

This testifies to the popularity and utility of these certificates

Invest your surplus foreign exchange in Foreign Exchange Bearer Certificates and reap a rich harvest!

Because of their high profitability and exclusive features, Foreign Exchange Bearer Certificates were sold to the extent of Rs. 10100 million between 1st August, 1985 and 31st January, 1988. In the same period certificates worth Rs. 5590 million were encashed (with profit).

In order to fully understand the significance of these certificates please study their following salient features:

Period after date of issue	Denomination				
	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 1,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 100,000/-
Less than one year	500/-	1,000/-	5,000/-	10,000/-	100,000/-
More than one year	572/50	1,145/-	5,725/-	11,450/-	114,500/-
More than two years	655/-	1,310/-	6,550/-	13,100/-	131,000/-
More than three years	760/-	1,520/-	7,600/-	15,200/-	152,000/-

* Purchasable in foreign exchange by any one at any time from Offices of Issue in Pakistan and abroad * No registration or declaration of buyer's name * Ownership of bearer. Transfer by simple delivery * No Income Tax in Pakistan on profit earned. No Wealth tax * Acceptable as collateral by Pakistani banks * Complete confidentiality * No compulsory deduction of Zakat * Encashable, with profit, at any time in foreign exchange or Pak. Rupees at Offices of Issue within Pakistan and, with profit, in foreign exchange, at Offices of Issue, outside Pakistan * Encashment anywhere is remittable abroad to any one * No questions will be asked by the Income Tax authorities about the source of funds invested * No restriction on import or export in any quantity of these certificates.

* Travellers Cheques can also be purchased in Pakistan against the encashed amount of these Certificates.

Buyers residing abroad, who are purchasing Foreign Exchange Bearer Certificates in Pakistan, should please remit foreign exchange in favour of an Office of Issue (relevant bank branch) in Pakistan giving it clear instructions to purchase these Certificates on their behalf. Those who receive foreign exchange remittance in Pakistan in the normal course cannot buy these Certificates merely on the basis of receiving such remittance.

Name and addresses of the Offices of Issue are available at all branches of Pakistani Banks abroad and Pakistani Embassies.

PROFIT FOR YOU, BENEFIT FOR THE NATION

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN**

یوم پاکستان

قائد اعظم کا ایک یادگار سفر


[illegible]

ہم پاکستان کے قومی دن کے موقع پر حکومت پاکستان اور پاکستانی عوام کو مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں

<p>SILSILA (Pakistani pun) Anjuman, Sultan Rahn, Mustafa Oureshi</p>	<p>سلسلہ پاکستانی خانی انجمن، سلطان راہی، مصطفیٰ قریشی</p>
<p>GEET DES PUN DE Vol.7 Bigree Naslain (Pakistani Urdu) Mohammad Ali, Raani, Shahid, Bahar</p>	<p>گیت دیں پنجاب کے 7 بگڑی شہیں پاکستانی اردو محمد علی، رانی، شاہد، بہار</p>

CHALLENGE (Bengali)
(Original print) * Sohail Rana, Wasim, Rabita

SILVER VIDEO **سلور ویديو**
Opp. Murgab Police
Station Tel: 2421835-Kuwait



عبد العزیز جام القطان
و شرکاء اور کہنی کے تمام
مشاف ممبران

پاکستان کے قومی من کے موقع پر پاکستانی حکومت، عوام کو ریت میں پاکستانی تارکین وطن اور سفیر پاکستان کو مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

کویت کی سب سے بڑی اور تیز رفتار کنٹینر سروس

سفاط

پاکستان میں سب سے بہتر خدمت کیلئے بے مثال سرجنٹ

ایس ایف ایس کارپوریشن

روانگی کنٹینر برائے لاہور - کراچی ۲ مارچ

رابعہ کے لیے

3929870 4310505 2406333 2406222

یوم پاکستان

پروکویت میں مقیم تمام پاکستانی بھائیوں کو دلی مبارکباد
 جمعہ کا اسپیشل ناشتہ
 مولہ پوری چٹا، مولی والا، آکر والا، قیصر والا، بلاشہ، روحی، قیصر والا، سید گل، چناری، پائے
 گوشت، مہم، دل، مرغہ، مغز، قیصر لائی اور غصا
 اسپیشل دسی گھی میں تیار رکھانے اور خوش ذائقہ منجھائیاں
 اسپیشل آئیٹم چانپ روٹ، پکین تکہ، شیش کباب
 پُر سکون ماحول۔ لاجواب مہروس
 تازہ ملائی گوشت - تازہ قیصر

مطعم سلطان
شارع نيلين
قريب من مسجد شين اوف
قطر - ٤ خيطان ٥٥

[illegible][illegible]

کسی کی محنت کے قیام کاغذ اور پتھر پہ 'چاچا کروڑ روپے
 کی مالیت کی مشین (جن میں گرائیجنگ کا مال
 دہائی خرچ کی مثال ہے) پاکستان میں درآمد کر سکا
 ہے۔ یہ سچ ہے۔ مگر یہ خزانہ مہربان کی بات نہیں کروڑ روپے
 کے جہازوں کے لیے جن کی مشینیں کی قیمتیں شاید ہزار
 ہزار روپے ہوں۔ یہ سچ ہے۔ مگر یہ خزانہ مہربان کی بات نہیں

[illegible]

(۱) پہلی مجلس کے اس اجلاس کے تحت لائسنس کے اجراء کے لئے صنعت کے دس سربراہان میں کیا گیا۔
(۲) مشینری کے شعبہ کی نئی جہازت کا کامیاب دورہ اور اس کے آلات (۳) کمرٹ - شہزادی کی مشینوں کا اجراء متخیر (۴) این آر اے کی انکم کے تحت قائم ٹریڈنگ کی دہائی کی جائزہ میں تھیں۔

(۱) این اثر آئی انیم کے تحت ہو رہا ہے حرکت کرتے
 درج میں مضمون کے کشائش درج کے جائز ہے درج
 قلمی۔

(۱) ہرگز اسد و نفلز
 (۲) مذکورہ اسطرزی
 (۳) ستمبر ۱۹۸۷ء کے اسطرزی
 (۴) نقل و حمل اور زچہ اسطرزی
 (۵) اسی کی پیکنگ
 (۶) کیلکول لپڈائی کو بھیجی ہے کہ آئی انیم کے تحت
 ایک صنعت کار کیا جائے۔

(۲) ہر کسی کی حیثیت کی اجازت ہے سوائے اس
 آئی انیم کے جن کی آئی انیم ۱۹۸۷ء کے سبب نہ رہی
 (۳) (سبب کی حیثیت سے) (سبب کی حیثیت سے)
 (۴) آئی انیم کے تحت ہر صورت شدہ "دولہ" کے
 (۵) حیثیت سے آئی انیم کے تحت ہر صورت شدہ "دولہ" کے

[illegible]

کہ کیا ہے۔ وہ این آر آئی ایچ کی ذیل میں آتا ہے۔
 درخواست دہندہ کے کے کارڈہ لیت میں پاکستان کے
 بیچلر بلک میں لائنس فیس جج کارڈس جو غیر کی
 ذمہ داری کی صورت میں پیش کی لاگت کا چارہزار
 ہوگی۔ اس کے علاوہ درخواست دہندہ کو لائنس فارم کے
 ایک پیشہ جوت کے طور پر ایک پانچ سو روپے کے سامی
 رقم تاحی کر لی میں جج کرانی ہوگی۔ اس مقدمہ کے لئے
 اعزاز یافتہ میں کرچی تک کے سالانہ روزی معارف بھی
 شامل ہوں گے۔
 این آر آئی ایچ کا صندوق میں ہونا چاہئے۔ والے
 پاکستان کو پیش کی درخواستیں فراہم کرنا ہے۔
 اپنے ملک میں ایسی شخصیات کا نام کرنا چاہئے ہیں جو
 دنیا بھر میں فہرست میں شامل کیے گئے لوگوں کو تصدیق
 سے آگاہ کرے اور اپنی تجاویز و خیالات کو غور سے
 دیتے ہیں۔ وہ یہ عرض ہے ضروری نہیں جن میں
 ذمہ داری یا فنی پیشہ ور ہیں اور نوکریں یا کسی کی تحصیل
 شامل ہوں گے۔ یہی سبکی جاتی ہیں کہ اسے مطلب کے
 معنی و فہم کے قیام کے امکانات کا جائزہ لیں۔ ان
 پاکستان کو بھی جس کی کمی ہے کہ این آر آئی
 لائنسوں کے اجراء یا ضروری تجاویز و خیالات کے لئے
 مختلف طرح کی ضروری لائنس، اقدار، سہولتوں کے

یوم پاکیزگی

کے پڑوسر مت موقع پر حکومت پانچواں
بھائیوں کو دلی مبارکباد

ہر قسم کی مٹھ

آپ کا جانا بچانا اور کویت کا
صلح کا نام

پچھلے پوری 'نہاری'
اسپیشل پیشکش

مطعم من و سولو
مشاور عبد الله مبارک

Figure 1 is a line graph showing the percentage of total sample for each age group (0-14, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74, 75+) across different years (1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020). The y-axis represents the percentage of total sample, ranging from 0 to 100. The x-axis represents the years. The 0-14 age group shows a steady decline from approximately 25% in 1970 to 10% in 2020. The 15-24 age group shows a slight increase from approximately 15% in 1970 to 20% in 2020. The 25-34 age group shows a slight increase from approximately 10% in 1970 to 15% in 2020. The 35-44 age group shows a slight increase from approximately 10% in 1970 to 15% in 2020. The 45-54 age group shows a slight increase from approximately 10% in 1970 to 15% in 2020. The 55-64 age group shows a slight increase from approximately 10% in 1970 to 15% in 2020. The 65-74 age group shows a slight increase from approximately 10% in 1970 to 15% in 2020. The 75+ age group shows a slight increase from approximately 10% in 1970 to 15% in 2020.

بروز ملک مقیم پاکستان میں کھیلنے کو روک دینے تک کی مشینیں نہ آگے نہ ہٹنے کا اجازت ہے۔

غیر مسلم پاکستان کے لئے داخل رہائی مہمیاہ
 کاری کی اصطلاح بالکل نئی ہے جو پہلے کسی حکومت
 پاکستان کی کسی اقتصادی یا تجارتی دستاویز میں اس طرح
 نہیں جاتی تھی۔ خاص طور پر غیر مسلم پاکستان کی
 اصطلاح "میںوں ملک پاکستان کے ساتھ اشتراک رسائی کی
 ہے" اس کی ابتدائی نسبت کے ساتھ اس قدر حق کے ہیں
 فکر کہ یہ عظیم علاج کے تمام مکتب فکر کا ہوا۔ ان
 کوں کوں کے لئے ہے۔ یہ بالخصوص پہچان جائے
 موہن کی دھڑ کی طرف سے جو عرض ہے کہ اس طرح کے
 معیشت کی اقتصادی اور تعلیمی طور پر ذراعت ہے جس
 میں ہماری کل تیر سو لاکھ ۵۵ لاکھ ۵۵ لاکھ کے ملک ہے
 نصف سے زائد مصروف ملک ہے۔ نتیجتاً ہماری برآمدات
 کو بیچنے پر ضروری مہمیاہ کی ضرورت ہے۔ پہلے ان کی
 ہماری کل تیر سو لاکھ ۵۵ لاکھ ۵۵ لاکھ کے ملک ہے
 ختم کیا اس دور کی کسی نئی ہیئت اقتصادی مسئلہ کیڑوں
 دھماکے "قوتے اور ملے سلائے کیلیت دور پر مشکل
 ہے۔ ساتھ کے انداز غور ان حرکت ایشیا کے بارے
 میں جو پچھلے چار سو برس سے ہماری برآمد کا کلیہہ

ان برآمدی اشیاء کا جائزہ جو ذریعہ مبادلہ کے حصول کا ذریعہ ہیں

[illegible]

پاکستان کو دھڑے دھڑے بہت محدود اختیار حاصل ہوئی
 تھی اور پچھلے چھ برسوں میں کوشش زیادہ کر رہی تھی۔
 نتیجے کے تحت ان کو دہلیہ طے شدہ گی روں جیسا کہ
 بینکسٹائل اور دیگر تصدیق شدہ بینک کے ذریعہ
 سیکیورٹی بھی فراہم ہوئی کی کوشش کی گئی۔ فی دہلی
 میں وزارت کا صدر ۵۰-۱۹۶۸ میں ۵۳۰۶۶ فیصد
 کم ہو گیا۔ ۸۶-۱۹۸۵ میں تقریباً ۱۵ فیصد ہو گیا جبکہ
 جیو ٹیکنیکل میں صنعت کا خاصا خسارہ ۸۸ فیصد
 رہا ہے کہ جو دیگر کچھ کچھ کم ہو گیا ہے۔
 میں خود کسانت کے حصول کی منزل کے لیے بہت کچھ

مرحلتوں وغیرہ کا تقاضا اس امر کے پیش نظر کر رہی ہے کہ
 انیس ارب روپے کا رقم کرنے میں مدد ملی ہے اور
 اقتصادی اعتبارات اور صنعتی اعتبارات۔
 وزارت کے ساتھ ساتھ صنعتی شعبے کا فروغ آنے کے
 نتیجہ میں، کے اعتبار سے ترقی پانچ سو لاکھ روپے
 جو ہر سال ایک سو لاکھ کی کوشش کر رہا ہے۔
 اقتصادی بنیاد کی بناء پر ملک کے برآمدی محصولات
 دو تہائی اور تجارت کے سہ پہرے میں سولہ فیصد
 کے اندر دو تہائی میں پہنچ جائے گا۔
 خانہ بدوشوں کے لیے چھ سو لاکھ روپے کے قرضے
 کے تحت ایک سو لاکھ روپے کے قرضے کے تحت

صدی کے سب سے گہرے دیکر گاہ میں کئی طرح
 بہت سے غیر ملکی پاکستان کی ترقی سے بہت سی
 ہے۔ ملک کو کئی قاتل میں دھکیلنے کی طرف مال میں
 ہونے والے گتے کا سفر میں اس کا ایک سبب ہے۔
 ساتھ ہی ایک کو دھڑے بہت گتے پاکستان کی ترقی میں
 کو کار کرتے۔

ناقابل واپسی سرمایہ کاری
 منصوبہ بندی کی جھلکیاں
 (۱۶) کو کئی پاکستانیوں کو گتے میں ہونے والے پاکستان

حبیب ایکس جنج کینی لمیٹڈ

حکومت پاکستان اور کویت میں مقیم پاکستانی عوام کو



ہدیہ تہنیت

دنیا بھر میں رقوم بذریعہ ڈرافٹ اوٹیلی گرام بھجوانے کا کویت میں آپ کا اپنا
قدیم - معروف اور با اعتماد ادارہ

آپ کی خدمت کے لیے ہمیشہ کوشاں

حبیب ایکسچینج کمپنی لمیٹڈ

صدر دفتر:- شارع مبارک الکیپر - صفات کویت ٹیلیفون 2417249 2419731 -
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یوم پاکستان کے پرستار

اور عوام پاکستان کو دل مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

اپنے قیمتی سامان کی بحفاظت اور بروقت پہنچنے کے لئے یا پائی او

دی کیڈیشنڈ (RHD) جاپانی گاڑیوں کی بیکنگ کے لئے

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یوم پاکستان کے پرستار

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ایک ہوں مسلم سرگرم کی پاسبانی کے لئے

نیل کے ساحل سے لے کر تا بھاک کا شفر

(احسان)

یوم پاکستان کے پرستار

اور عوام پاکستان کو دل مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

حکومت پاکستان اور پاکستانی عوام مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

فراموشی لاہور۔ بیٹے۔ دی۔ کو تین اور سہ لاکھ بے

سامان کی اڑان نیشنل پرستار اور مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

ذبحہ ہمارے ہاں ہر قسم کی کراہی نہایت ہی مناسب قیمتوں پر

خریدنے کے لئے شریف لائیں

الزراعی کپنی، الزراعی کسٹمر سروسز

ٹیلیفون 2413457 2427383 2445324

یوم پاکستان کے پرستار

اور عوام پاکستان کو دل مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

ایک ہوں مسلم سرگرم کی پاسبانی کے لئے

نیل کے ساحل سے لے کر تا بھاک کا شفر

(احسان)

یوم پاکستان کے پرستار

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حکومت پاکستان اور پاکستانی عوام مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

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نیل کے ساحل سے لے کر تا بھاک کا شفر

(احسان)

یوم پاکستان کے پرستار

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حکومت پاکستان اور پاکستانی عوام مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

فراموشی لاہور۔ بیٹے۔ دی۔ کو تین اور سہ لاکھ بے

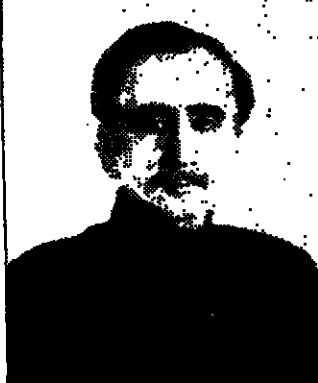
سامان کی اڑان نیشنل پرستار اور مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

ذبحہ ہمارے ہاں ہر قسم کی کراہی نہایت ہی مناسب قیمتوں پر


خریدنے کے لئے شریف لائیں

الزراعی کپنی، الزراعی کسٹمر سروسز

ٹیلیفون 2413457 2427383 2445324



وزیر اعظم محمد خٹک



صدر پاکستان محمد ضیاء الحق

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یونائیٹڈ بینک لمیٹڈ کے ۱۷۵۰۔ براچوئے اور الائیڈ بینک کے ۱۷۵۰۔ براچوئے کے لئے

پاکستان کے لئے روپیہ کی ترسیل کا مندرجہ ذیل بینکوں سے انتظام ہے

- نیشنل بینک آف پاکستان
- یونائیٹڈ بینک لمیٹڈ
- ایسٹ بینک لمیٹڈ
- ایسٹ بینک لمیٹڈ

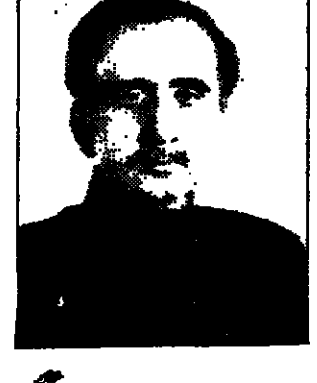
حکومت پاکستان کی ایجنسی پاکستان بینکنگ کونسل اور مرکزی بینک پست کا منظور شدہ ادارہ

عمان ایسٹ بینک بینک لمیٹڈ کویت

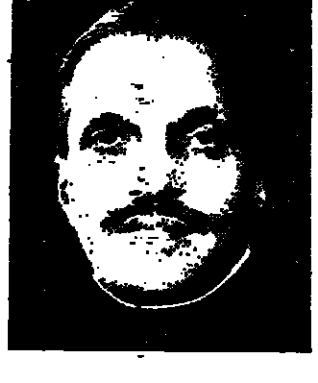
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بلاخ آفس — فحالیہ شارع مکہ فضاء

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وزیر اعظم محمد خٹک



صدر پاکستان محمد ضیاء الحق

یوم پاکستان کے پرستار

حکومت پاکستان اور پاکستانی عوام کو دل مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں

پاکستان کا مشہور زمانہ

باری بامتی چاول

اب کویت کی جمیات کے علاوہ ان جگہوں پر بھی دستیاب ہے۔

مختار عیدی سالیہ

ٹیلی فون نمبر 5635962

یونس سٹور سالیہ

ٹیلی فون نمبر 5637984

ماڈرن انڈین سٹور فرانسیہ

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یوم پاکستان



یوم پاکستان قائد اعظم محمد علی جناح



مفت پاکستان علامہ اقبال

جس کے لئے جب کہ ہر دلی اہمیت اور اہمیت کا بھی عام اثر ہے۔ آج اس دن کو یاد کرنا ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔

تاریخ میں اس دن کو یاد کرنا ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔ آج اس دن کو یاد کرنا ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔

تاریخ میں اس دن کو یاد کرنا ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔ آج اس دن کو یاد کرنا ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔

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۳۳ مارچ ۱۹۴۷ء کو پاکستان کی سرحدیں سے دوسری طرف انڈیا میں ہجرت کر رہے ہیں۔

کے لئے اس دن کو یاد کرنا ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔ آج اس دن کو یاد کرنا ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔

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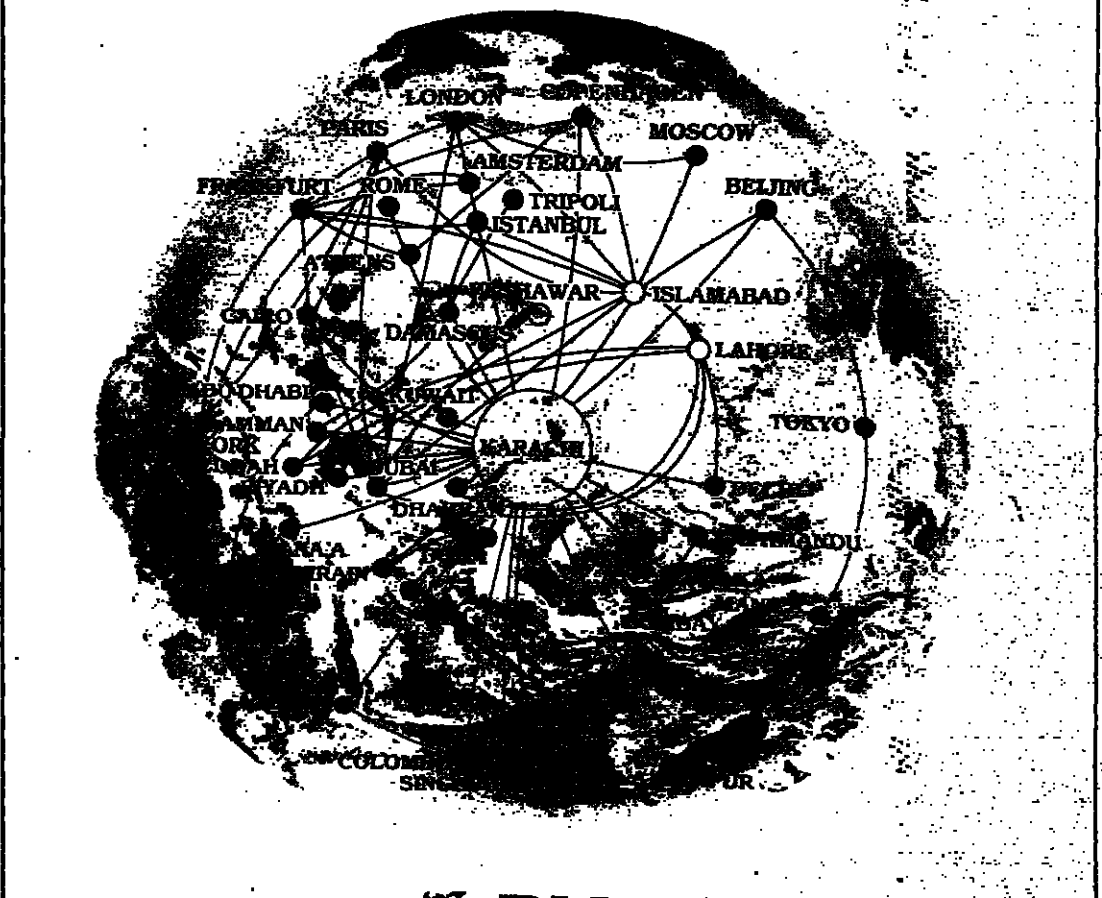
قائد اعظم نے علامہ اقبال کے مافی التوا کو تہنید بن کر رٹا اور حیرت یا

اس اجلاس میں وہ قرار دیا کہ ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔ آج اس دن کو یاد کرنا ہر پاکستانی کی حکومت کے لئے ایک عظیم کام ہے۔

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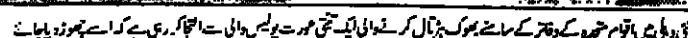
یوم پاکستان کے پر مسرت موقع پر

حکومت پاکستان اور پاکستانی عوام کو دلی مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں

منجانب بہ عنایت اللہ مرزا

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مزدوروں پر ۲۲ درج (بائیں) ٹائیمر نے آجے اعلان کیا ہے کہ اس نے حکومت کا کھٹا لے کر سرحدوں سے ملک کو قتل کرنے کی ایک سازش کا نام لیا ہے۔ وزارت اطلاعات کی طرف سے جاری کردہ بیان میں بتایا گیا ہے کہ ۱۵ سال سے اختفیہ سازشوں کو گرفتار کر کے دہشت گردوں کے خلاف سازشیں جاری ہیں۔ وزیر داخلہ نے کہا کہ ان کے خلاف سازشیں جاری ہیں۔ وزیر داخلہ نے کہا کہ ان کے خلاف سازشیں جاری ہیں۔ وزیر داخلہ نے کہا کہ ان کے خلاف سازشیں جاری ہیں۔

ہر روز کی اس قدر خون کی بائیس کی نہنت

جل ہی ہر دے کے پیچھے پیدا رکھتا۔ کھڑکس نے دوز رائے
 مناج کے اٹھاس کے دہرے روز کھینکس کے
 خلاف امریکی فورس کے ہر خورہ کرے اور کل
 خدھر کی بائیس کی شدید ہمت کی۔ عظیم نے الگ
 امریکی تارو کے راس تھے کھلا۔ کھوہ کھینکس خواہ
 کے خود اور دھوت اور ان کے حق کی دہائی کی کوچ
 امریکی تارو کے راس تھے کھلا۔ کھوہ کھینکس خواہ
 کے خود اور دھوت اور ان کے حق کی دہائی کی کوچ

سیم کوئی دس سوں کے یمپ ہیں
سکموں کے حملوں میں پانچ افراد ہلاک

مگر شہزادہ کو اس بات پر یقین نہ تھا کہ اس کا تعلق کسی خاص طبقہ سے ہے۔ اس نے سوچا کہ اگر وہ ایک عوامی شخص ہے تو اس کا تعلق کون سے طبقہ سے ہے؟ اس نے سوچا کہ اگر وہ ایک عوامی شخص ہے تو اس کا تعلق کون سے طبقہ سے ہے؟

[illegible]

بالتن ۳۲ مارچ (رائٹر) امریکہ نے فوری طور پر
 طور پر پابندی کے تحت مرد آبن جہاز ایل انٹرنیشنل
 اگلے سال تک مستعمل ہو جانے کی وجہ سے مسترد کر دی۔

[illegible][illegible]

یہ کویت، انجمن صحافیوں کے عہدیداران سے قائم مقام وزیر اعظم و زمیندار جہاں آباد

کوتہ ۲۲، رملیق (کوٹا) کوتہ کے قائم مقام
 وزیر اعظم ذوالفقار علی خان نے بیان کیا کہ اس نے کوٹاہے کہ ایران
 کے خلاف ہرگز کوئی سازش نہیں ہے۔

[illegible]

اسلامی کانفرنس سیم کے بیان میں

[illegible]

ایک اور شخص کی تصویر بھی دکھائی گئی ہے جس کی شناخت ایک شخص کے طور پر کی گئی ہے۔

روایوں کے باعث مزید تین فلسطینی ہلاک

میں نے گزشتہ رات مغربی کنارے کے علاقے میں
 فلسطینی مسلحہ بین کے ساتھ تحریکوں کے دوران کارنگ۔

[illegible]

ایک امریکہ نے تجویز مسترد کر دی ' یہ صحیح

[illegible]

عرب ٹائمز

بدھ ۲۳ مارچ ۱۹۸۸ء، شواہ ۱۴۰۸ھ جیت ایڈیٹر احمد حارثہ

ان سے خلیجی ممالک کے مذاکرات کی شرط یہ ہے کہ وہ ان ممالک میں مداخلت بند کر دے۔ کویت سے ایران کے تعلقات

اردن پاکستانی موقف میں نرمی پیدا کرنے کی کوشش کر رہا ہے، سیاسی ذرائع

[illegible]

فاروقی کے پیچھے میں ۲۶ افراد کی بلا کی تصدیق ہو گئی۔ جنازوں کو آجائے

عراق کے سران پر ایف اور میگزین
مارا سات شہروں پر فضائیہ کی
بمباری

مفتوں بعد دو صبرے اپنی جگہ میں ایک یونانی تکر کو کھینچ
 بنا لیا گیا۔ جس کے تینوں جہازوں آگ لگ کر تھک چکی ہے۔

ہر پہنچے تھے وہ ہزاراں مراٹھی جاگیردار تھے عرب
 بھائیوں یا مراٹھیوں نے عیسوی یا قلعی جواب نہیں دیا
 ہوا سر کی بڑی خراب چارچٹ لٹکے لٹکے اپنے سر پہنچے وہودہ مشرق
 کے سنی کے دور ان حلقہ دارا کو حوصلہ میں نہیں آتا تھا۔

روم ۲۲ مارچ (رانا) افغانستان کے سابق شاہ ظاہر شہزادہ محمد زور اس کی جتنی سے تردید کی کہ انہوں نے

شاہد افضل حسن ۱۹۷۳ء سے مستقل گزٹریہ جرنلسٹ بن گئے۔ شاہد کی قریبی شہادتیں
کی حکومت کا کشیدہ ان کا نام میں جلاوطنی کی زندگی گزار
رہے ہیں۔ دریں اثناء شاہد نے امریکا میں اپنے اہل خانہ کی ملازمت
کی حکومت کا کشیدہ ان کا نام میں جلاوطنی کی زندگی گزار

اس کے چاہت پر کھٹل بھی جو بھاگ کر پاکستان جا چکا ہے۔ روپوش میں اس کے خواسے کہا گیا کہ انجیل اللہ نے کئی بار کھل سوت عمر کی جیل میں ساتھی ملانہ سے اسکو

امریکہ کا سرکاری طور پر کیے گئے احتجاجی موشول میں ہوا تو یہ جہاں کا جہاں
 قریب ۳۲ سالہ امریکہ کے موشول عرب
 دہرے ہضم کے درخت کے پتوں سے لگا کر ان میں امریکہ
 طور پر کیے گئے احتجاجی موشول میں ہوا امریکہ

اسلامی کانفرنس سٹیج پر خطاب کرتے ہوئے

[illegible]

کولید۔ ۳۳ مارچ (رامن) سری لنکا کے شمالی علاقے | ان ریاست میں داخل ہونے تو ریچھارو کنھوں تک۔

اول سے تشریح کی کہ اگر چاہاں میں ہی راستہ نکلی
کے آخری سال میں تھے۔ پندرہ اور پندرہ سو
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نورجے تھے لیکن انہیں نے مت میں بارش۔

عمیدوار کے تھے ایسے کہ مہم افروخت سے اندر کر سکیں۔

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V

عزت پر سب سے زائل کیجئے

(مہربانی کی عظیم روایتوں کا پاسدار)

الحمد لله الذي هدانا لهذا الذي كنا لنهتدي لہٗ

QUEENSLAND TROUNCED BY FIVE WICKETS

Western Australia retain Sheffield Shield

PERTH, Australia, March 22. (Reuters) Holders Western Australia claimed their 11th Sheffield Shield cricket title since the Second World War when they beat Queensland by five wickets in the final today.

Returning at 7.15 for no wicket and needing only another 91 for victory on the fifth and last day, opener Mike Veletta with 59 steered the home side through an early sticky patch to ensure success.

Alarm
There was an alarm when three wickets fell for only 11 runs, making the score 33 for three, but useful knocks by former Australian captain Kim Hughes (21) and Wayne Andrews (20 not out) tipped the balance.

Once again Queensland, who have never won the trophy in 56 years of trying, were left empty-handed. Captain Allan Border was

unwilling to make excuses, but said police inquiries about an alleged incident on the flight from Melbourne and action against two Queensland players had had an effect.

Queensland team-mates Greg Ritchie and Ian Botham both face court appearances tomorrow.

Come up
"The investigations and subsequent police action didn't help our preparation," Border said. "It was not the sort of thing that is easily forgotten once in the dressing room trying to concentrate on cricket. It was just one of those things we had to try to deal with."

On the subject of the Queensland captaincy next season Border said: "I haven't really thought about it in any great depth. I'll think about it during the winter and hopefully come up with the right solution."

On the future of former England test captain Botham, Border said: "That's another thing we'll have to decide. We have just lost a Sheffield Shield."

On the field there were a few moments of drama when fast-medium pacer Dirk Tazelaar took three wickets for four runs in the space of 11 deliveries.

He removed Geoff Marsh for 39, James Brashaw for four and captain Graeme Wood for a duck, and then shortly before lunch he also trapped Veletta lbw, ending with four for 65 off 22.4 overs.

Hook
Hughes top edged a hook at Ian Botham and was caught by substitute John Maguire at backward square leg in the over before lunch, leaving Western Australia 133 for five at the break.

But then Andrews and Tim Zohrer, with 10 not out, hit off the necessary runs, Andrews clin-

ching victory with a six over square leg off Tazelaar.

Scoreboard
Queensland first innings 289 (A. Border 66 C. Matthews eight for 101)
Western Australia first innings 344 (G. Wood 141 C. Rackemann five for 69)
Queensland second innings 216 (T. Holmes 59 not out, I. Botham 54 T. Alderman six for 91)
Western Australia second innings (overnight 71 for no wicket)
G. Marsh b Tazelaar 39
M. Veletta lbw b Tazelaar 59
J. Brashaw c Botham b Tazelaar 4
G. Wood c Healy b Tazelaar 8
Hughes c sub (Maguire) b Botham 21
W. Andrews not out 20
T. Zohrer not out 10
Extras (lb-8 nb-1) 9
Total (five wickets) 162
Fall of wickets: 1-78 2-82 3-82 4-125 5-133
Bowling: Botham 16-3-33-1, Rackemann 14-4-29-0, McDermott 7-1-21-0 (lbw), Tazelaar 22-4-65-4, Holmes 4-1-6-0.
Result: Western Australia won by five wickets.



Veletta: steers to success

Brothers Sporting rout Flying Arrows

BROTHERS Sporting Club beat Flying Arrows by four wickets displaying an all round batting performance in a Friday League organised by GCL.

Brothers' captain Sadeq won the toss and decided to bat. Sadeq and Montu made a solid start and at 77 Montu was caught off Benjamin for 33.

Score
After Asgar was out at 86, Quamruzzaman joined Sadeq and took the score to 113 when Sadeq was out caught for 64, which included 8 fours.
Quamruzzaman played steadily and remained not out with 43.

Other batsmen to reach the double figures were Masud 20 and Mohd Hossain (10 n.o.). Brothers scored 179 for six at the end of 30 overs. Benjamin claimed three wickets for 37 runs. In reply, Flying Arrows started their innings with Derek and

Salim and soon were in trouble when Derek was given lbw with the score at only two. Afterwards the wickets started to fall at regular intervals. No batsman except Salim (21) and Milno (17) could resist the bowling of Montu and Masood.

Claimed
Montu claimed four wickets for only 15 runs and Masud picked up four wickets for 35 runs.

Flying Arrows managed to score 92 runs. Montu of Brothers Sporting Club was declared the Man of the Match.

Rahim League cricket final

HUBARA will meet Evergreen Cricket Club in the final match of Rahim League cricket Championship organised by Hubara Cricketers tomorrow at KOC New Ground, Ahmadi. The match will commence at 2.00 pm.

According to the present position, Hubara leads the table with 25 points from five games whereas Evergreen is second with 23. The winner of this match will be the ultimate champion of Rahim League. Prize distribution will take place immediately after the match. The sponsor Suhail Rahim of Ashraf & Co., will be the chief guest and will give away prizes.

Ritchie charged

PERTH, March 22. (Reuters) Former Australian test cricketer Greg Ritchie has been charged with offensive behaviour on the same flight on which English all-rounder Ian Botham is said to have grabbed a passenger in a headlock.

Police said Ritchie, Botham's Queensland team mate, will appear in court tomorrow.

The charge against Ritchie relates to an alleged incident on the flight from Melbourne to Perth on March 15, after which Botham was charged with assault.

Botham's case was on March 17 adjourned until tomorrow. He faces two charges of assault and one charge of disorderly conduct.

Denness elected

MAIDSTONE, England, March 22. (Reuters) Former England cricket captain Mike Denness, who was sacked as Kent skipper at the end of the 1976 season, was elected to the club's general committee yesterday.

Evergreen lift President's trophy

A GLORIOUS century by man of the match Ejaz Ahmed enabled Evergreen to outclass Falcon Cricket Club by a wide margin of six wickets and retain President's Trophy at EPI Ground on Friday.

Falcons, after winning the toss batted first and were off to a disastrous start, losing half the side for only 100 runs. Then Anjum Raza joined Amin and both mixing caution with aggression took the score to 160 when the former was stumped by Ejaz off G. Haider for 37. One six and three fours were his principal strokes.

Stumped
Amin's responsible innings of 62 which included only one six and one boundary ended at 190 when he was also stumped off the bowling of Rafique Butt. Chris and Rauf coming together for the unbroken ninth wicket partnership managed to take the score to 225 at the end of 45 overs.

Chris remained unbeaten on 24 and Rauf hit three boundaries in his bold knock of 21 n.o. Earlier, Zahid Butt (24) and Ayub (19) were the other batsmen who could get into double figures before getting themselves run out.

For Evergreen, Rafique Butt (two for 46), Shabbir (one for 39), Zahid Wayne (one for 30) and G. Haider (one for 20) were the wicket takers.

Opened

Evergreen, requiring five runs per over for victory, opened through regular openers Ejaz and Baber. Hundred of the innings was reached in the 18th over with both the batsmen in complete command. However, Baber left at 113 when he was well caught by Arjun off Anjum for 50 which included two long sixes and three boundaries.

Second wicket fell at 154 when Amjad was stumped for 15.



Victorious Evergreen squad. Ejaz Ahmed sitting third from left.

Shabbir joined Ejaz who soon reached his well deserved century with a push towards mid-wicket. He celebrated his century by hitting Amin for 15 runs in one over. However, the same bowler got his revenge when he bowled Ejaz on the first ball of his next over.

Knock
Ejaz's marvellous knock of 122 contained eight fours and a well timed six. Shabbir was out after scoring 21 runs when victory was only six runs away. So Zaghar had to join Razzak to get Evergreen past the victory target with only four wickets down. Razzak (10) and Zaghar (4) were the not out batsmen. For Falcons, Merwyn (two), Amin and Anjum (one each) were the wicket takers.

At the end of the match the chief guest, Syed Amir Abbas Rizvi congratulated Evergreen in general and skipper Asad Baig in particular for lifting trophies.



Asad Baig (right) receiving trophy from A.A. Rizvi.

Williams quits rugby squad

LONDON, March 22. (Reuters) Stand-off Peter Williams spoilt England's plans for their rugby union tour of Australia by pulling out within an hour of the squad being announced today.

He said he had turned professional and signed for rugby League club Salford.

Williams, who has won four caps, said: "I didn't tell the rugby union that I was not available before the tour party was announced because they did not bother to ring me and ask."

New

But Don Rutherford, England secretary, said: "All the players near the squad knew about the tour and had been asked if they could go, if selected."

Number eight forward Dean Richards will go on tour. Yesterday he was banned from a special match against Ireland next month for his part in the Calcutta Cup incident when the trophy was used as a ball in an impromptu post-match street game.

John Orwin, who took charge at half time in the five nations game against Ireland on Saturday when Nigel Melville was injured, continues as captain on the eight-match tour in May and June.

Unavailable
But three of the backs who began the game at Twickenham are unavailable — Melville, hat-trick hero Chris Oti and centre Simon Halliday. Oti is examined at Cambridge, while Halliday cannot take time off from his stockbroking job.

Squad
Full backs: Jon Webb, Ray Adamson; wings: John Bentley, Mike Harrison, Rory Underwood; centres: Bryan Barley, John Buckton, Will Carling; stand-off: Rob Andrew; scrum halves: Richard Harding, Simon Robson; forwards: Gareth Chilcott, Paul Rendall, Gary Pearce, Jeff Probyn, Brian Moore, Wade Dooley, John Orwin (captain), Nigel Redman, Mick Skinner, Gary Rees, Andy Robinson, Dean Richards, David Egerton.

Bout postponed

LONDON, March 22. (AP) Tec Nkalankete's defence of his European light-welterweight championship against Lloyd Christie has been postponed for three weeks, it was announced today.

Paddy Lynch, Christie's manager, had asked for the postponement of the bout, originally set for April 9, to give his British fighter more time to train at the 140-pound limit.

Blue Star trophy

The finals of the Blue Star cricket tournament will be played at Safeway ground on Friday March 25 at 9.00 am. The match will be contested between Sporting CC and Kokan CC. Guest of honour for the finals will be Mahmoud Bastaki.

Senna and Prost set best times

IMOLA, Italy, March 22. (Reuters) Ayrton Senna and Alain Prost, driving last year's turbo-powered McLaren, set the best times in five days of pre-season Formula One testing at Imola yesterday.

Brazilian Senna recorded a best lap of one minute 29.140 seconds, just ahead of former world champion Prost's 1:29.302 and pushing the Ferraris of Gerhard Berger and Michele Alboreto down to third and sixth place over the five days.

Prost is due to put the new season's McLaren through its paces today before the team leaves for Brazil and the April 3 opening of the 1988 World Championship.

"Everything's gone well up until now but we'll see how the new car performs today and tomorrow," Senna told reporters.

Cram blasts Olympic selection policy

LONDON, March 22. (Reuters) Former world 1,500 metres champion Steve Cram today slammed Britain's Olympic athletics selection policy and said that it could wreck his plans for two gold medals in Seoul.

The world mile-record holder was joined in his blistering attack on the controversial "first two past the post" policy by European 5,000 metres champion, Jack Buckner.

Olympic pre-selection has been scrapped for the elite, with selection only guaranteed to those who finish in the first two at the national championships in Birmingham this year.

Cram said: "If they want to send the best team to Seoul and if they've got any sense, they will think again. The policy's a bit ridiculous and it's about time they started listening to the athletes and coaches."

"Instead of rubbing their hands in glee at the thought of having Seb Coe, Cram and Steve Ovett in the same trial race in Birmingham, they should not lose sight of what it's all about — getting the strongest possible team for Seoul."

"I don't think I deserve pre-selection after having such a bad 1987 season, but just because Daley Thompson and myself didn't do well in Rome, they seem to think that pre-selection no longer works. In fact, it has always worked well in the past, and I think the world championship medallists like Jack (Buckner) should have been given the opportunity."

Tyson stripped of IBF heavyweight title

NEW YORK, March 22. (AP) Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson has been stripped of his title by the International Boxing Federation, the New York Times reported in its today's editions.

S.Y. Roseman, public relations director for the IBF, said Tyson forfeited the title yesterday when he entered the ring for his defence against Tony Tubbs without the IBF belt, according to the report.

Tyson, after wearing only his World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association belts into the ring, stopped challenger Tony Tubbs with six seconds left in the second round.

Tyson's manager, Bill Cayton, was told before the fight by IBF championship committee chairman Bill Brennan that the title

would be vacated if the champion failed to wear the organisation's belt into the ring, Roseman said. Cayton said Tyson did not wear the belt and that no sanction fee was paid to the IBF because he did not want to embarrass the Japanese. The Japan Boxing Commission does not recognise the IBF.

Asked before the stripping what he would do if it occurred, Tyson said, "I'll win it back again."

Roseman said the IBF's leading contenders, Trevor Berbick and Carl Williams, would fight for the vacated title, the Times reported.

Tyson earned the first portion of his undisputed title from Berbick, then the WBC champion, with a second-round knockout on Nov 22, 1986.

Vaca aims to retain title

LONDON, March 22. (AP) Boxing history is full of fighters who win a world title, then disappear from the scene after one unsuccessful defence.

Mexico's Jorge Vaca aims to make sure that doesn't happen to him.

"We have prepared ourselves not to become a one-defence champion," Vaca said today at his first news conference ahead of next week's world welterweight title rematch with Lloyd Honeyghan.

"We are going to maintain an aggressive attack, we'll be going for the knockout immediately. No respect," he said.

Crown
Vaca, who took away Honeyghan's World Box Council crown last October in one of the year's biggest and most controversial upsets, ideally would have preferred an easier opponent for his first defence.

But he said he was not afraid of launching himself into the Briton's back yard for the second time in five months.

"Definitely I would have preferred a different contender. But as the champion, I will fight anyone, as long as the purse is good," Vaca said.

Lost
Mickey Duff, promoter of the March 29 fight at the Wembley Arena, refused to disclose the purse but said Vaca was getting "seven times" more than on his last visit to Britain.

Sources estimated the Mexican received £15,000 (\$27,450) that time and that he would be receiving in the region of £105,000 (\$192,150) for next

week's rematch. The previously unbeaten Honeyghan lost his World Boxing Council and International Boxing Federation titles after Vaca was badly gashed in a clash of heads in the eighth round.

Honeyghan was blamed for the clash and was deducted a point. It proved crucial as the Mexican was awarded a split decision on a points countback. But because of the peculiar circumstances of the outcome, the WBC ordered an immediate rematch.

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Motorcyclist joins Yamaha team

De Radigues ready for world title

BRUSSELS, March 22. (Reuters) Giacomo Agostini joined Belgian motorcyclist Didier de Radigues to his Yamaha team by making him an offer he could not refuse.

"He rang me up and said how would you like to become world champion?" De Radigues said.

Now the 29-year-old says he is not his new teammate, double world champion Eddie Lawson — will be the team's top candidate to win the 500cc world championship which starts this weekend in Suzuka, Japan.

Praised
Piling up experience in the 500cc class for three years with Honda and one with Cagiva, De Radigues has become one of the sport's crowd-pullers, often praised for his wet-weather abilities and devastating starts.

But last year his brand new Cagiva bike suffered non-stop teething troubles.

For the ambitious Belgian, mechanical failure in 70 per cent of his races was just too much to take and he eventually faded into 12th place in the grand prix standings.

"I was very, very disappointed," he said. "I finished in so few races... it was an awful season." When Agostini, who won 15 world titles himself in the 60's and 70's, emerged with the offer, De Radigues sprang into action.

Rough ride
"I immediately raced" to Cagiva and explained everything... and they tore up my contract, just like that.

"They said if you don't believe 100 per cent in our machine any more, you don't have to stay," he said.

De Radigues succeeds Briton Rob McElnea who could not manage to emerge from the shadow of American Lawson.

the team's favourite son. He knows he is in for a rough ride. "It will be hard," he agreed. "Lawson will not do me any favours but that's normal... he has been world champion twice and it's up to me to prove myself worthy of my place."

"Someone will be first rider, we can't both be the best," De Radigues said. "But I will not be second rider, that's not in my character."

On the other hand, he will not let the world title become an obsession.

"I don't want to start such a long season with that enormous pressure of having to become the world champion," he said.

The battle-hardened De Radigues knows that a good bike alone is not enough. "You also need talent, experience... and good health."

A string of serious arm injuries has more than once undermined

his racing future. "My left shoulder especially has worried me a lot," he said. "I had an operation in December 1986 after two accidents... I didn't feel anything any more in the arm... all the muscles were gone."

Fitness

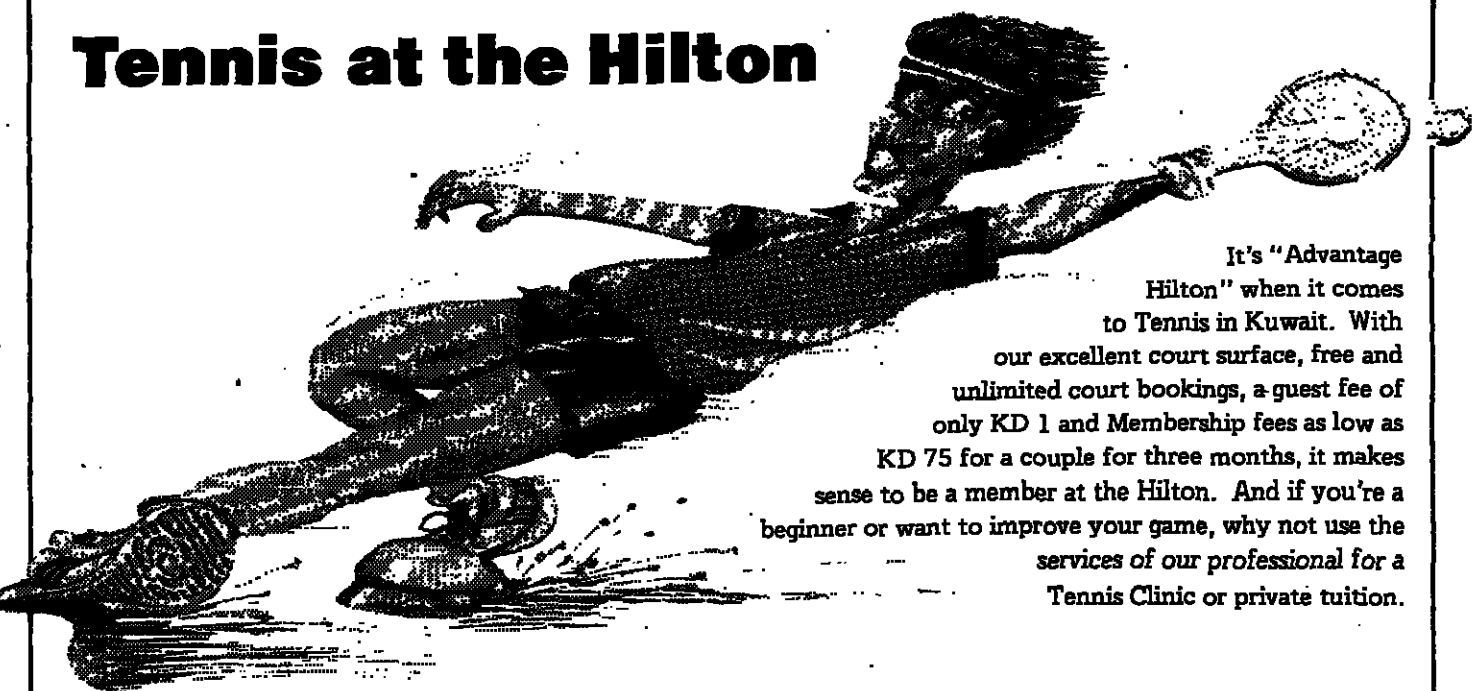
It took him more than six months to fight his way back to fitness, and still has daily training sessions of up to six hours to stay in top shape. "I feel great again," he said.

Like many other sports celebrities, he has moved to Monaco, and not only for tax reasons.

"In Belgium, once I became popular, I spent too much time dining."

Together with a new home and a new bike he has regained the hunger for racing. "I still have 10 good years ahead of me," he said.

Tennis at the Hilton



It's "Advantage Hilton" when it comes to Tennis in Kuwait. With our excellent court surface, free and unlimited court bookings, a guest fee of only KD 1 and Membership fees as low as KD 75 for a couple for three months, it makes sense to be a member at the Hilton. And if you're a beginner or want to improve your game, why not use the services of our professional for a Tennis Clinic or private tuition.

For more details of Tennis Membership, the Clinic and private tuition, please call our Recreation Manager on 2533000 or 2530000

KUWAIT HILTON

SPORTS

Ireland take on Romania in warm-up match

DUBLIN, March 22, (Reuters): Ireland, badly hit by injuries since they clinched their place in the finals of the European championship, will give a first cap to midfielder John Sheridan when they meet Romania in a warm-up match tomorrow.

Sheridan, a stylish passer in the English second division with Leeds, will replace veteran Liam Brady, whose place in the squad for the finals in West Germany is threatened by injury and suspension.

Ireland's English manager Jack Charlton said: "Sheridan is now getting very close to the top level. He's a good passer of the ball and his tackling has improved a lot. He can deliver the same sort of ball that we are accustomed to seeing from Liam."

The Irish — regarded as outsiders for the finals — have lost the services of Paul McGrath, Ronnie Whelan, Ray Houghton, Mark Lawrenson, Liam Brady and John Aldridge since their last competitive fixture against Bulgaria.

Charlton knows the Romanians will offer a stiff test to the men who have been called in as replacements even though the Romanian team will not include any members of European Cup semifinalists Steaua Bucharest.

All 10 of the Steaua players in the squad were withdrawn, officially because the club has a rearranged league fixture, following their aggregate triumph over Glasgow Rangers in the European Cup last week.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Sri Lanka in command

HARARE, Zimbabwe, March 22, (AP): The Sri Lankan cricket team appeared headed for victory over Zimbabwe 'B' after bundling the home side out today for 108 runs. At the close of the first of three days' play the visitors were 135 for the loss of one wicket.

Sri Lanka have won three of their four matches so far and drawn one because of rain when they were very much in command.

Scores: Zimbabwe b 108 (T. Penny n o, D. Goodwin 33, K. Witegunawardena 3-20, R. Woeruys 3-10).

Sri Lanka 135-1 (Da Silva 76, D. Wickramasinghe 54 n o)

Advisory panel

WASHINGTON, March 22, (Reuters): An advisory panel headed by former secretary of state Henry Kissinger has been formed to assist the United States in its bid to host the 1994 World Cup soccer championship, the World Cup USA announced yesterday.

The United States, Brazil and Morocco are all under consideration by Fifa, the sport's international governing body, as possible sites for the 1994 finals. Fifa is scheduled to announce its decision on July 4.

Fight postponed

MADRID, March 22, (Reuters): World Boxing Association (WBA) junior lightweight champion Brian Mitchell of South Africa has postponed his title defence against Puerto Rican Jose Rivera because of an injured right hand, the Spanish Boxing Federation said yesterday.

A spokesman said the fight, which was due to take place on Friday in Madrid, would now be held next month, although the date had not yet been fixed.

Ira Ferns soccer

THE quarterfinals of the fifth Ira Ferns memorial football tournament sponsored by Agnello Fernandes and organised by Super United Football Association (GCA) will be played on Friday, March 25, at Sour Ground 'B' at 06.30 am between Goa Maroons and Boys' Own Club.

Bridge

SHERATON ladies bridge game results played last Wednesday.

1. Nabil Akel & Lollo Marthwait
2. Irene & Fatima Aboljohain
3. Rita Canocini & Dora Materny.

Men's ladies bridge game played on Saturday.

1. Lyn Edwards & Pearl Levey
2. Nida Khalaf & Joannette Chiles
3. Rita Canocini & Dora Materny.

Habara central bridge game played on Saturday.

N/S.
1. Jamila & Nabil Akel
2. Sandra Turvey & Adel Bayoumi
3. Diab & Sayemeh

E/W
1. Lyn Edwards & Pearl Levey
2. John & Mouna
3. Harrison & Nash

Hilton bridge game results played on Sunday.

1. Mamdouh Sabri & K. T. Simon
2. Izzeldin & Sherine Bassuny
3. A. Rita Canocini & Adil Tabb
B. Sandra Turvey & Adel Bayoumi

CHRIS EVERT TO MEET SUKOVA IN PLAYERS

Connors and Mecir advance to quarterfinals

KEY BISCAIYNE, Florida, March 22, (Reuters): Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia and American Jimmy Connors moved into the quarterfinals with straight-set victories yesterday at the \$2.1 million International Players Tennis Tournament.

Chris Evert also advanced, but she drew more attention with the announcement that she would marry former skier Andy Mills within the year.

The third-seeded Mecir ended the bid of 14th-seed Mikael Pernfors of Sweden 7-5 6-0 6-1.

Eliminating Connors, seeded second, advanced by eliminating 17th seeded Amos Mansdorf 6-3 6-4 6-3.

Seventh seeded Barbara Potter ended the upset run of qualifier Sabine Auer of West Germany 6-3 6-0. The hard-serving Potter had no problems against Auer — 284th in the world — who had beaten fourth seeded Hana Mandlikova of Australia.

Mecir, seventh in the world, looked very uninterested at the



Chris Evert

beginning of the match, as Pernfors coasted to a 4-0 lead. Suddenly, though, Mecir changed rackets and began producing winners in bunches, as he repeatedly caught Pernfors out

of position.

The Slovak swept 19 of the last 21 games with brilliant tennis, while Pernfors seemed confused.

Mecir angled backhand passing shots past Pernfors with

remarkable ease and worked his way to the net on Pernfors's weak second serve.

"I won here last year. I like this tournament. That is what keeps my game going good. I want to keep going against the better players in the next rounds," Mecir said.

Connors ousted 17th seed Amos Mansdorf of Israel 6-3 6-4 6-3 in just under two hours to set up a quarter-final meeting with seventh seed Anders Jarryd of Sweden.

The 35-year-old Connors, who has not dropped a set in the tournament, played steadily from the baseline to take the first set from the 23-ranked Mansdorf.

In the second set, Connors, ranked sixth in the world, broke Mansdorf in the opening game and maintained that advantage, fending off the Israeli's passing shots with lunging volleys.

Games went on serve in the third set until the seventh, when Connors broke with a forehand crosscourt winner. The American held for 5-3, then broke Mansdorf again for the

match with a blazing forehand down the line.

"I feel I played better than in my first three matches," Connors said. "I moved better. It's a matter of keeping my mind on my business and playing good tennis."

Jarryd eliminated unseeded Frenchman Guy Forget 6-2 1-6 6-4 7-6 in another fourth round match.

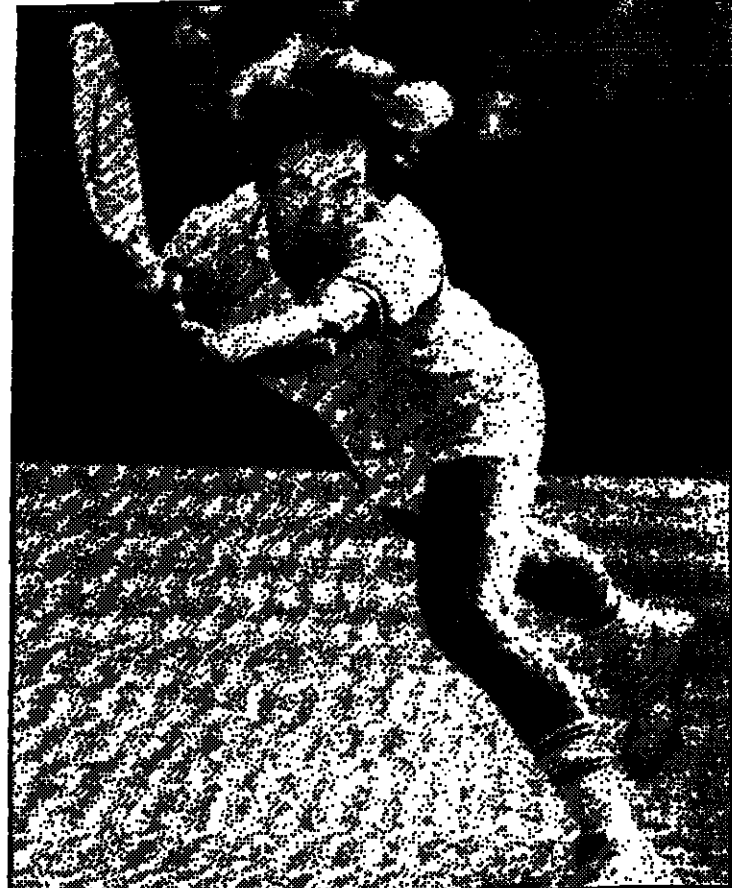
Evert had problems with her serve, but was never in trouble in her 6-4 6-2 win over Pascale Paradis of France. She will play fifth seed Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia in the quarterfinals.

Routed

Sukova routed 12th-seeded Italian Raffaella Reggi 6-3 6-0 earlier yesterday.

Unseeded American Stephanie Rehe also reached the quarterfinals with a 6-4 6-2 win over unseeded Patricia Tarabini of Argentina.

Evert and Paradis both tried to give the match away when serving. The erratic match included 13 service breaks in 18 games.



Connors: straight set win

Africa Nations Cup soccer

Morocco and Cameroun to meet in semifinal

CASABLANCA, March 22, (Reuters): Morocco, the Lions of the Atlas, roared on by 80,000 highly partisan supporters, meet the indomitable Lions of Cameroun in the semifinals of the Africa Nations Cup soccer tournament tomorrow.

The host nation are confident of advancing to the finals where they will meet the winners of the other semi-final battle between the Green Eagles of Nigeria and Algeria.

Their wily Brazilian coach, Jose Melhi Faria, is happy with his team's success in finishing top of group A and he should have a strong line-up against Cameroun, second-placed finishers in group B.

"We will win this tournament," he declared to a packed room of journalists.

Expected

Attacking midfielder star Aziz Boudabala, who has just signed for French First Division club Matra Racing, is expected to play after he was given the green light from his doctor in Paris at the weekend.

Boudabala, the darling of the Casablanca crowd, had been recovering from a leg operation after an injury. One of the best players so far in this eight-nation tournament, his skill could be the vital difference between the two teams.

Morocco will also field Boudabala's powerful Matra Racing teammate, the veteran

Merry Krimau.

Krimau turned in one of his best international performances in Morocco's thrilling 1-0 victory over Algeria last week.

Along with confidence-exuding goalkeeper Badou Zaki of Majorca, and St Etienne star midfielder Mustapha El Hadadoui, Krimau has shuttled back and forth from Europe to play for his country in Africa's most prestigious soccer tournament.

However, there is a question mark over Zaki who appeared to injure his knee in a club game on Sunday in Spain.

Missed

The Lions of the Atlas will for the first time be able to call upon Abdelmajid Dolmy, midfielder star of the 1986 World Cup finals, and the experienced Mohamed Timoumi of Belgian club Lokeren who was injured in the first game against Zaire.

Dolmy, at 35 the old man of the squad, has missed all the games so far through injury. His recovery provides Faria with an extra wise head on which he can draw.

After their 0-0 draw with Ivory Coast on Saturday, Krimau told reporters: "With Dolmy and Timoumi, we will do the same in the semifinals as we did against Algeria."

Cameroun, pipped by Nigeria to first place in group B, could be heading for their third consecutive Africa Nations Cup soccer final.

Tomba cruises to sixth World Cup slalom win

OPPDAL, Norway, March 22, (AP): Double Olympic champion Alberto Tomba of Italy cruised to his sixth World Cup slalom triumph of the season today, finishing ahead of Japanese sensation Tetsuya Okabe.

Tomba was .55 ahead of Okabe, who was only 10th after the first run. Third went to veteran Paul Frommelt of Liechtenstein, who had an identical finish in last month's Olympic slalom at Calgary, Alberta. He was 1.05 seconds behind Tomba.

Fastest

Okabe was fastest down the 64-gate second run to secure his best finish of his career. The 23-year-old Japanese had laced 14th and in the points last Saturday in a slalom at Are, Sweden, also won by Tomba.

Tomba led by .43 ahead of Grega Benedik of Yugoslavia after today's first run, that also

had 64 gates.

It was the red-hot Italian's ninth World Cup win of the season — he also has won three giant slaloms — and it improved his chances of winning the overall title for the first time.

Okabe, who had trailed Tomba by a big 1.70 second margin after the morning run, beat the Italian by 1.15 in the second run to vault eight spots.

Tomba had runs of 57.30 and 55.45 for a combined time 1 minute, 52.75 seconds.

Clocked

Okabe clocked 1:53.30 after runs of 59.00 and 54.30.

Frommelt, at 30 one of the oldest skiers on the World Cup circuit, had a total time of 1:53.80 (57.86-55.94).

Fourth went to two-time defending overall champion Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland in 1:53.97.



● Natalia Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin of USSR in action during the compulsory dance of the 1988 World Figure Skating Championships in Budapest. They took commanding lead in the event. (Reuters wirephoto)

Holders Sweden to meet England in final

PARIS, March 22, (Reuters): England achieved an astonishing victory over the Soviet Union to reach the men's team final against holders Sweden after they had looked doomed in the European table-tennis championships yesterday.

Carl Preen inspired England's resistance and rescued a seemingly forlorn cause to pilot his team from a 2-4 deficit to a 5-4 semifinal triumph.

Breezing

Sweden overwhelmed Hungary 5-1 in under two hours, breezing through in the confident manner of favourites while the other semifinalists continued to wage their intense battle which was to last 4-1/2 hours.

Preen played tremendously and won all his three matches as team-mates Desmond Douglas and Alan Cooke faltered in the initial stages.

Conceding

England number one Douglas suffered two dispiriting reverses after winning the first game each time, leaving England trailing 2-3 where they might have led 4-1. But Preen completed his treble to haul them back to 3-4 and his confidence rubbed off on Cooke, who — like Douglas — had lost twice but now found new spirit and aggression to beat Boris Rozenberg, Douglas's initial conqueror, and level the tie at 4-4.

The Hungarian men were likewise no match for the star-studded Swedes, and were hampered additionally by the absence of their leading player Tibor Klampar, out of action because of a shoulder injury following the first of the five round-robin group matches.

Zolt Kriston achieved their lone victory with an admirable 21-15 23-21 win over defending European singles champion Joergen Persson to make it 2-1 overall.

Douglas, who had squandered several match-points in conceding his second singles to Andrei Mazunov, recovered his nerve to nail Vladimir Dvorak 21-18 21-17 in the decider and take England to the final for the first time since 1978.

England did not drop a game as Preen, Cooke and Douglas, sole survivor of the 1978 team beaten by Hungary, swept through the last three matches.

The Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia claimed the right to contest the women's team final with respective 3-1 victories over the Netherlands and Yugoslavia.

Hampered

Czechoslovakia earlier topped defending champions Hungary with a 3-0 whitewash in the last groupies round, adding to a reverse inflicted on the titleholders the previous day by the Netherlands.

The Hungarian men were likewise no match for the star-studded Swedes, and were hampered additionally by the absence of their leading player Tibor Klampar, out of action because of a shoulder injury following the first of the five round-robin group matches.

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Gullit attracts fans to Wembley

WEMBLEY, England, March 22, (AP): A young man in moustache and dreadlocks will lure a near-capacity crowd of more than 70,000 fans to Wembley stadium tomorrow night.

The attraction is not a reggae singer from the West Indies. It is a soccer player.

Ruud Gullit, his rastafarian hairstyle familiar across Europe, makes a rare appearance in Britain when he leads the Netherlands against England in an international soccer exhibition.

Soared

Ticket sales soared when it was announced that Gullit, the 1987 European Soccer Player of the Year who cost AC Milan a record \$10.25 million would take part in the match.

But if "Gullitmania" is the main reason for many of the fans journeying to Wembley, the game is important for at least two other reasons as well.

First, it provides an on-the-field preview of what should be one of the key matches in this summer's European soccer

championships in West Germany.

England, the top seed in its group, and the Netherlands, seeded No. 2, are due to meet in Dusseldorf on June 15.

Second, it could provide a preview of off-the-field troubles at that championship match.

Soccer thugs from England and Holland, considered to be among the roughest in Europe, have vowed to clash in West Germany and law enforcement officials from all three countries are taking part in security operations at Wembley.

Bobby Robson, the England manager, said the match gave his team the chance to prove that an overwhelming 4-1 victory over Yugoslavia last year that clinched a spot in the European championships was no fluke.

"It's an opportunity to pick up where we left off," Robson said. "We did well there, but it was only one match. We want to know if we can do it again — and with a big crowd, the lads will want to perform."

England will have to go without two of its main players because of injuries. Influential centerback Terry Butcher remains sidelined with a broken leg and yesterday, Liverpool midfielder Steve McMahon was ruled out because of a painful knee and thigh.

Captain Bryan Robson, however, is scheduled to start after recovering from a bout of flu, and veteran goalie Peter Shilton was also named to start today. Shilton had been considered doubtful after suffering a head injury in a League match last Saturday.

Dave Watson of Everton, Butcher's replacement, has the task of guarding Gullit, whom Bobby Robson acknowledged was the big drawing card.

He has gone to a tough place to play and has been outstanding. That makes him a truly great player," the manager said. "He and (Argentina and Napoli star Diego) Maradona are the two best players in Europe, if not the world."

European Championship

Spain seek revenge on France

BORDEAUX, France, March 22, (Reuters): Spain will be seeking belated revenge for their defeat in the final of the 1984 European Championship in Paris when they meet France tomorrow in a warm-up for this year's finals in West Germany.

Maintained

Several members of the team beaten 2-0 by a French side inspired by Michel Platini will be playing again for the Spaniards, who have matured into one of the most durable and effective sides in world soccer in the last four years under veteran coach Miguel Munoz.

In the World Cup finals in Mexico in 1986, Spain maintained the form which carried

them to the 1984 European Championship final by reaching the quarter-finals, and Munoz has loyally stuck by that team's battle-hardened nucleus of Real Madrid players.

Injuries and fatigue could undermine Munoz's plans, however, as his Madrid stars feel the strain of their success in both the Spanish First Division and European Cup.

Both Emilio Butragueno and Rafael Gordillo have slight injuries and are doubtful, while Barcelona midfielder Victor Munoz is likely to be replaced by Ramon Caldere.

France, in contrast, have since completely rebuilt their team under coach Henri Michel, who

replaced Michel Hidalgo after the 1984 triumph, with the 1990 World Cup qualifying campaign in mind.

Doubts

Michel, like Munoz, faces injury problems. He will be without Bordeaux striker Jose Touré and Marseille defender William Ayache and has doubts over strikers Philippe Fargeon, who has a knee injury, and Jean-Claude Papin.

Michel said: "Spain are a big challenge and we will have two objectives — to confirm our two last results and to live up to our potential."

France beat Switzerland and Israel in their last two matches.

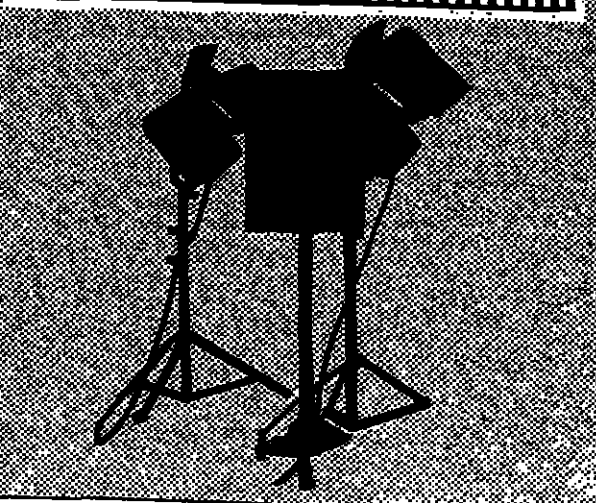
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